

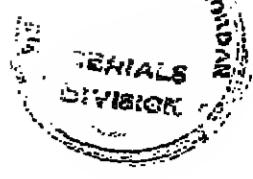
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Japanese Are Shaken By Shooting Of Official

Leader of Investigation Into Subway Poisoning Is Left Seriously Hurt

By T. R. Reid
Washington Post Service

TOKYO — As the head of the national police force lay in a hospital with four bullet wounds, and the terrorists responsible for last week's subway gas attack remained at large Thursday, the people of Japan faced a frightening question: "What happened to our safe society?"

So asked the headline in the evening's edition of the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, Japan's biggest newspaper, as a nation that is accustomed to safety, civility, and peace in every neighborhood at any hour suddenly experienced its second shocking crime in 10 days.

Following their standard practice, the police said almost nothing about possible clues or suspects in the shooting Thursday of Takaji Kumimatsu, director general of the National Police Agency. Mr. Kumimatsu, was shot outside his apartment building about 8:30 A.M. by a masked man who rode up on bicycle, fired at least four times, and raced away in a misty morning rain.

Mr. Kumimatsu, 57, was reported in stable condition Thursday night. As the head of National Police Agency, he had been in charge of the nationwide investigation into the terrorist poison gas attack on the Tokyo subways on March 20 that killed 10 people and injured about 5,000.

Mr. Kumimatsu's investigators have focused on a secretive cult named Aum Shinrikyo, led by a bearded Buddhist guru named Shoko Asahara, whose meandering and often wildly illogical writings overflow with fear and hatred of the National Police Agency.

The police would not discuss any connection between the two crimes. The Aum sect denied any responsibility for either one.

But other analysts were less reluctant. "At the very moment the police are carving open the deepest secrets of the poisoning case, the top officer of the police was shot," said a crime expert, Yukio Akasaka. "Naturally you can see a connection there."

The ownership of guns is essentially banned in Japan. Members of the organized crime network, the yakuza, are known to traffic in smuggled guns, and normally any shooting here prompts suspicion of these gangsters.

But attacking the national police chief is not their style, and analysts said it was unlikely that the yakuza was responsible for the shooting.

According to news reports, the police investigation has turned up an enormous amount of evidence linking the Aum cult to the nerve gas that was used in the subway killings.

Former cult members say they were taught that any necessary measure was acceptable to protect the cult and its leader, Mr. Asahara, who styled himself the

See JAPAN, Page 4



AFRICAN EXODUS — A Rwandan girl carrying her newborn sister fleeing Thursday from a camp in Ngosi Province, Burundi, with other refugees headed toward Tanzania. The Hutu refugees feared being attacked. Page 12.

Pope Condemns a 'Culture of Death'

Resist Abortion and Euthanasia, Encyclical Strongly Urges

By Celestine Bohlen
New York Times Service

ROME — In an encyclical warning of the rise of a "culture of death" in modern society, Pope John Paul II used his strongest language ever on Thursday to condemn abortion and euthanasia, which he said were "crimes which no human law can claim to legitimate."

And in a significant shift from previous Roman Catholic Church doctrine, he adopted a stronger line against capital punishment, which he said should be used only in "cases of absolute necessity," which are "extremely rare, if not practically nonexistent."

On the issue of abortion and euthanasia, the encyclical letter reaffirms the church's well-known positions, but casts them in new and sobering language that stops short of infallible dogma, invoking the authority

vested in St. Peter and his successors and the consistent tradition of the church's teaching.

Furthermore, the Pope takes his case for a binding morality into the political arena, chastising democracies for denying "the original inalienable right to life" on the basis of the will of the majority.

"In this way democracy, contradicting its own principles, effectively moves towards a form of totalitarianism," the Pope said. "That state is no longer the 'common home' where all can come together on the basis of principles of fundamental equality, but is transformed into a tyrant state, which arrogates to itself the right to dis-

See LIFE, Page 12

Though Beloved by Candidates, Term Limits Fail in the House

By Katharine Q. Seelye
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — After months of oratory about the evils of career politicians, the House of Representatives has voted squarely against American sentiment and rejected four proposals that would have limited the number of terms its members could serve.

The votes were the first ever to be held on a constitutional amendment on congressional term limits — a bad idea, acknowledged some of its reluctant supporters, but one whose time had come.

Still, all four measures failed, making term limits the first item in the Republicans' "Contract With America" to go down to defeat in the House.

Among voters, a constitutional amendment for term limits was perhaps the most popular item, along with a balanced-budget amendment, in the Republican's 10-item contract. Up to 80 percent of Americans support term limits, surveys say.

Since 1990, 22 states have passed term limits for their members of Congress. The Supreme Court is to rule soon on whether states violate the Constitution when they set limits for federal office.

While Republicans generally supported the measures in public, and Democrats generally opposed them, the sharper divisions ran along generational lines. Newer members were eager to pierce the hide-bound careerism in Congress while senior members asserted that there was no substitute for experience.

Democrats said the proposals were doomed from the start because Republicans did not want to cut short their time in Washington any more than Democrats did.

Indeed, the most stirring denunciation of the concept of term limits came from a prominent Republican, Henry Hyde of Illinois, chairman of the Judiciary Committee, who commanded the well of the House chamber for nearly 15 minutes on Wednesday night.

"I just can't be an accessory to the dumbing down of democracy," said Mr. Hyde, who was first elected in 1974.

Mr. Hyde extolled the value of experience, lamented "this corrosive attack on the consent of the governed" and urged his colleagues not to yield "to the

angry, pessimistic populism that drives this movement."

His speech drew standing ovations from both sides of the aisle — and consigned those who spoke after him to near oblivion.

A Democrat, Representative Bill Richardson of New Mexico, succinctly summarized the core of the opposition. "We've already got term limits," he said. "They're called elections."

Democrats also contended that the Republican leadership had organized the votes in such a way to guarantee their failure.

The first measure to lose Wednesday night would

See CONGRESS, Page 12

Turks Launch New Assault, But Seek to Reassure West

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TUNCELI, Turkey — Up to 15,000 Turkish troops poured into Tunceli Province in an offensive against Kurdish guerrillas on the same scale as the drive against rebels in northern Iraq, army officials said Thursday.

Convoys of military vehicles blocked the roads in and around the eastern province for an expected assault on strongholds of the Kurdish Workers Party, or P.K.K., there. "This is going to be like the north Iraq offensive," a military official said.

Turkey is facing mounting Western pressure to halt the operation amid fears for civilians caught in the invasion. Germany has imposed an arms embargo, and the United States has largely adopted a harsher tone.

The Red Cross said Turkey had violated the Geneva Conventions by refusing to allow Red Cross officials into the military theater to check on civilians.

Troops, including airborne units and special forces, backed by long-range artillery, have been converging on the province from other parts of the country for the last three days.

Security officials reported clashes taking place in the Munzur Mountains on the border between Tunceli and Erzincan Province. It was unclear if this was part of the new offensive.

The total number of soldiers posted in Tunceli may reach more than 30,000, they said. About 35,000 troops have been hunting the P.K.K. in northern Iraq since March 20.

Troops arriving in Tunceli and those already there have begun to wear red-and-white armbands, as have Turkish soldiers in north Iraq, to indicate that they are on a war footing.

The guerrillas, ensconced in mountains towering to more than 3,000 meters (10,000 feet), ambushed a military convoy in Tunceli on March 18, killing 18 soldiers.

The rebels are believed to number up to 3,000 in Tunceli and about 2,500 in Iraq. More than 15,000 people have been killed in the Kurdish Workers Party's decade-old separatist campaign.

The Turkish government, meanwhile, launched a diplomatic offensive on Thursday, announcing that its foreign minister would go to the United States and Europe to ease concerns about the assault on the Kurds.

"I will from next week travel to Germany, the United States and France for talks with authorities to clear up misunderstandings," Foreign Minister Erdal Inonu said at a news conference in Ankara.

In a statement, the Turkish Foreign Ministry accused Germany, a N.A.T.O. ally, of breaking the spirit of their defense alliance.

(Reuters, AFP)

Newspaper Prices

Andorra	9.00 FF	Luxembourg	60 L Fr.
Antilles	11.20 FF	Morocco	12 Dh
Cameroun	1,400 CFA	Qatar	6,000 Riels
Egypt	£ P. 500	Sudan	11,20 FF
France	650 CFA	Saudi Arabia	2,000 R.
Gabon	350 Dr. S.	Senegal	950 CFA
Greece	2,600 Lira	Tunisia	1,000 Diri
Italy	4,000 Lira	Turkey	TL 45,000
Jordan	1,120 CFA	U.A.E.	8,50 Dinh
Lebanon	US\$ 1.50	U.S. M.	(Eur.) \$1.10

Dow Jones

Up

11.07

4171.57

4 P.M.

The Dollar

Down

0.41%

11.16

9 P.M.

Trib Index

previous close

1,3825

1,3875

9 P.M.

The Dollar

1,4065

1,3825

4 P.M.

1,5117

1,5117

9 P.M.

Pound

1,604

1,5117

9 P.M.

Yen

89.61

88.40

9 P.M.

FF

4.913

4.8795



STRIKEBOUND — Crowds of commuters at Gare St.-Lazare in Paris on Thursday waiting for trains, which were scarce, as French public transport workers staged a daylong strike. Air service was also disrupted. Page 2.

Sidelight to the JFK Murder: Castro's 3-Killer Theory

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Fidel Castro ran his own tests to determine whether it was possible for one man using a rifle with a telescopic sight to have killed President John F. Kennedy, according to FBI documents released Thursday.

Based on the findings, Mr. Castro speculated that "it took about three people" to do the deed.

This information was included in a letter dated June 17, 1964, from the FBI director, J. Edgar Hoover, to J. Lee Rankin, general counsel for the presidential commission that investigated the assassination.

Mr. Hoover said that the Cuban leader also recounted that, when Lee Harvey Oswald was refused a visa at the Cuban Embassy in Mexico City several weeks before the assassination, he left saying, "I'm going to kill Kennedy for this."

The letter was among 10,228 pages of previously secret

documents related to Mr. Kennedy's assassination that were released under a special 1992 law.

The existence of this Hoover letter and some of its contents have been known since the mid-1970s. But it was the first time the paragraphs recounting Mr. Castro's statements had been made public.

The letter was based on information gleaned by an FBI informant in Cuba; his name was not included in the letter.

"Castro is said to have expressed the conclusion that Oswald could not have fired three times in succession and hit the target with the telescopic sight in the available time, that he would have needed two other men in order for the three shots to have been fired in the time interval," Mr. Hoover wrote.

"The source commented that on the basis of Castro's remarks, it was clear that his beliefs were based on theory as a result of Cuban experiments and not on any firsthand information in Castro's possession."

Cuba has long maintained that Mr. Kennedy was assassinated by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency.

The FBI's own tests determined that three shots could have been fired by one person within the five to six seconds it took. The Warren Commission concluded in 1964 that Mr. Oswald, acting alone, killed the president.

Since then, numerous conspiracy theories have surfaced, revolving around whether Mr. Oswald was the lone gunman and, if he was, whether he might have been acting at the behest of the CIA, the FBI or organized crime.

The documents released Thursday examined whether Mr. Oswald had connections to the Cuban or Soviet governments. In one of them, Soviet officials acknowledged that Mr. Oswald had defected to the Soviet Union, but said that he was never given citizenship.

Soviet officials also believed that the assassination was not the work of one person, and they believed that Mr. Oswald was under the influence of "ultralight" elements.

AGENDA

No Change in UN Sanctions on Libya

UNITED NATIONS, New York (Reuters)

The Security Council made no changes Thursday in sanctions imposed on Libya for failing

A Faith Reborn/Community Re-emerges

Ukraine's Jewish Revival Once-Shattered Culture and Religion Thrive

By James Rupert
Washington Post Service

KIEV — On a quiet side street, Leonid Rabinovich, 68, sat in the courtyard of a small, brick synagogue selling Jewish religious articles to supplement his meager pension.

The yarmulkes sell fairly easily, he said, his handmade menorahs not so well. But what really keeps him busy these days is directing the steady flow of Jews who walk through the gate to join what is a brisk revival of Jewish life in Ukraine.

"They want to know which days Passover falls on, how to put their children into Jewish schools, where to study Hebrew and how to find matzo," Mr. Rabinovich said.

Wrapped in a threadbare wool coat and a thick wool hat against snow flurries and Kiev's chilly air, he directs them to offices and bulletin boards and gives them telephone numbers.

Ukrainian Jews, who 100 years ago dominated this country's cities and were influential in Judaism worldwide, were shattered this century by pogroms, the Holocaust and decades of Soviet oppression. But three years after the Soviet Union's collapse, synagogues, Jewish schools and social programs are sprouting again in Kiev, Lviv, Odessa and other cities.

A few years ago, hundreds of thousands of Ukrainian Jews sought only to emigrate and abandon their centuries-old homeland, fearing that state oppression and institutional anti-Semitism could never be changed. But in the new, independent Ukraine, many Jews say, it has become possible to rebuild the Jewish religion and culture.

In synagogues, schools and homes in Kiev and the western city of Lviv, the Jewish revival has the urgent, chaotic look of a mission. It is driven in part by money and volunteers from Jews in Europe, the United States and Israel. There are a handful of energetic rabbis and their wives, many of them from Brooklyn.

In Lviv, Rabbi Mordechai Baid and his wife, Sara, both in their 20s, follow an exhausting schedule, overseeing new schools and organizing the distribution of food, medicine and clothing sent from the United States. Rabbi Bleich said, "My office is stacked up with boxes of clothes. I can't even get in there."

EARLY in this century, Lviv, like other Ukrainian cities, was a largely Jewish metropolis renowned in worldwide Judaism as a cradle of the Orthodox Hasidic movement.

There were 300,000 people in Lviv, and a third to a half of them were Jewish," said Rabbi Baid. With 38 synagogues, he added, the city "had some of the greatest rabbis and sages for learning."

Ukraine also provided a significant flow of Jewish emigrants to the United States beginning in the late 19th century.

Ukrainians and Russians killed tens of

thousands of Jews in pogroms in 1919 and 1920. And in World War II, invading Nazi troops killed hundreds of thousands of Jews; Ukraine's government estimates put the death toll as high as 1.2 million. After the war, Josef Stalin tightened restrictions on all religions and repressed Jewish culture.

For decades, only a token synagogue operated in Kiev. In Lviv, "all the synagogues were destroyed except this one," Rabbi Baid said, showing a three-story sanctuary with elaborate murals depicting Hebrew-inscribed tablets of the Ten Commandments guarded by lions and griffins.

He said the Soviets had used it as "a warehouse and a stable."

Tens of thousands of Jews emigrated. Others acquiesced to the pressure and were assimilated into Soviet-designed culture, in which Russian was the language and there was no belief in God.

There were two generations who had to all but forgo religion," said Meir Roberg, a British rabbi teaching at a Jewish primary school in Kiev. "The Soviet Union almost finished what Hitler could not — the elimination of Jewish religion and culture here."

BUT while Ukraine's Jews were among the most numerous victims of Nazi and Soviet anti-Semitism, they are also among the most numerous survivors. Jewish leaders estimate that 500,000 to 600,000 Jews remain in Ukraine, making it the world's fifth-largest Jewish population, according to Ukraine's chief rabbi, Yaakov Bleich.

Emigration continues. Amid Ukraine's post-Soviet economic depression, "many Jews are leaving for the same reason other Ukrainians do," said Rabbi Roberg. "They want better jobs, a more healthy life."

But emigration is no longer the only choice for those hoping to practice Judaism.

"We have all the institutions of Jewish communal life," said Rudolf Mirsky, a Jewish professor of political science at Lviv Polytechnic University.

"We cannot hope to rebuild the great center of Hasidic Judaism that this once was," Rabbi Roberg said, "but we think there can be a thriving Jewish community in Ukraine."

In 1989, "we had 12 synagogues," said Rabbi Bleich. "Now we have more than 50."

He said Ukraine's main cities now support 13 Jewish primary and high schools, plus yeshivas for religious study, and, in Kiev, a small university.

He said that there also were programs to care for the elderly in Kiev.

Rabbi Bleich credited the three-year-old Ukrainian government with facilitating the revival, partly by handing back the properties of Jewish institutions seized by the Soviets. President Leonid Kravchuk and his predecessor, Leonid M. Kuchma, have condemned anti-Semitic attitudes — evident, for example, in rightist newspaper articles and leaflets that have remained from the old days.

"Ukraine has the best human-rights record in the former Soviet Union," Rabbi Bleich said, adding that its policy toward Jews and other minorities was "very, very positive."

James Rupert/The Washington Post
Ukrainian youths chanting a prayer after lunch at a Jewish school for boys in Kiev.

"The best change is that we can take pride as Jews," said an elderly Jewish woman in the courtyard of Kiev's synagogue. "Now our young men can walk on the street wearing yarmulkes if they like, and nobody harasses them."

"For years, officialdom prevented you from rising too far in your profession if you were Jewish," said Inna Grossman, a Jewish teacher in Kiev. "Now, I don't feel that any more."

Butchers and other shops, replacing them with huge markets and state stores that ignored Jewish traditions.

Now, a bakery at the synagogue produces more than a ton of matzo daily for Jews in Ukraine and other former Soviet republics.

At a side door, a Yiddish-speaking butcher sells kosher meat and chicken.

A continuing difficulty for Ukraine's Jews is anti-Semitism. In Lviv, a center of Ukrainian nationalism, Jews have received letters telling them they should leave. This month, when thousands of Jews gathered at a large hall in Odessa for the traditional Purim festival, an anonymous caller telephoned with a bomb threat, interrupting the festivities.

But each of 20 Jews interviewed for this article described such acts as committed by a marginalized few. Several noted that anti-Semitism in Ukraine had no prominent spokesman analogous to those in Russia, such as the nationalist politician Vladimir V. Zhirinovsky or Metropolitan Ioann, the Russian Orthodox primate of St. Petersburg.

"Anti-Semitism is everywhere in the world," said Mr. Mirsky, the Lviv professor. "There are fewer actual attacks against us than we hear about from the States."

He suggested, as did others, that the psychological burden of anti-Semitism in Ukraine was that memories of the recent past continue to feed a fear "of what is possible."

"If Ukraine falls into economic chaos," said Alexander Gurevich, a Jewish journalist in Lviv, "the Jews fear what could be stirred up against them."

But the strike was not the only one to affect travel.

At Air Inter, workers are preparing to negotiate a new five-year plan, a task that will fall to the new government.

On the highways leading into Paris, traffic jams were measured at 14 to 21 kilometers (9 to 13 miles) long.

On the beltway around the city, traffic jams stretched to 28 kilometers.

Six of the 13 Paris Métro lines were shut down by strikers. Lines open were running at a rate of about 30 percent or less. City buses were running at a rate of 30 to 40 percent.

The strikes began at 8 P.M. Wednesday and are to continue through 8 A.M. Friday.

Such strikes are unusual during a political campaign period in France, which will elect a new president in two rounds of voting on April 23 and May 7.

"It is normal that the French want to improve their lot," Prime Edouard Balladur, a leading conservative candidate, said Wednesday night of the strikes. But he added that the striking workers must "be careful not to break the machine."

The Socialist candidate, Lionel Jospin, and the Communist candidate, Robert Hue, backed the strikers, saying that workers should share in an improving economy.

In most cases, strikers are seeking improved wages. Railroad workers are also protesting austerity cuts. Their action comes as the railroad authority prepares to negotiate a new five-year plan, a task that will fall to the new government.

At Air Inter, workers are prepared to streamline forced by European Union deregulation.

(AP, Reuters)

Rail and Bus Strikes Create Paris Jams Air Inter Flights Disrupted

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

PARIS — Automobile traffic was nearly at a standstill on highways leading to Paris, nearly half the city's Métro lines were closed and trains were scarce as transportation workers went on a daylong strike Thursday.

The state railroad company SNCF said that just one train in four was running on main lines and that suburban services were curtailed.

Only the Channel Tunnel Eurostar service and the Paris-Lausanne high-speed train line were running normally.

At Orly airport, south of Paris, 1,000 workers at Air Inter, the state-run domestic airline, on strike since March 12, demonstrated with colleagues from Air France.

At one point, the airport strikers briefly interrupted preparations for two Air Inter flights, pulling the plug on electrical feeds to the planes, according to union workers.

The strikers, who later dispersed peacefully, stayed away from the runways to avoid confrontations with not police officers posted throughout the area.

In most cases, strikers are seeking improved wages. Railroad workers are also protesting austerity cuts. Their action comes as the railroad authority prepares to negotiate a new five-year plan, a task that will fall to the new government.

At Air Inter, workers are prepared to streamline forced by European Union deregulation.

(AP, Reuters)

TRAVEL UPDATE

Americans to Be Polled on Travel

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Census Bureau will carry out a survey of American travel starting in late April. The Transportation Department is sponsoring the project in hopes of learning where new construction is most needed, what technology might improve travel, where pollution is most likely to be a problem, and how to cut energy costs and improve safety.

It will be the first government travel survey since 1977. The effort will involve 30,000 households.

The bureau will ask about any trips of 75 miles (120 kilometers) or more, including the means of transportation, the number of people on the trip, the reason for the trip, the kinds of lodgings used and the stops along the way.

Unions at Italy's state-run airline Alitalia said they would strike Monday to protest the carrier's restructuring plans. The strike would probably force the cancellation of most Alitalia flights, except those on some heavily traveled routes.

The State Department has warned Americans traveling in the Dominican Republic about a potential for violence in the capital, Santo Domingo, because of protests over large fare increases on public transport.

(Reuters)

Senator Seeks a Niche in His Quest for the White House

By Richard L. Berke
New York Times Service

mer district attorney from Philadelphia who aggressively advocates abortion rights and picks fights with the Christian Coalition.

And that is only part of the problem for Mr. Specter, 65. Beyond the questions about his ideology, it does not help that he has the sometimes off-putting personality of a combatant, or that as a Jew he does not share some beliefs of Christian conservatives, who are an increasingly visible force.

Mr. Specter has been elected three times to the Senate from the fifth-largest state. He knows how to raise millions of dollars for his campaigns. And he is tireless on the stump. Still, his quest for legitimacy has been made only more arduous by Governor Pete Wilson of California, who has all but announced his decision to enter the race.

Like Mr. Specter, Mr. Wilson favors abortion rights. But unlike Mr. Specter, his candidacy is taken seriously if for no other reason than because he governs the largest state and has staked out hard-line positions on immigration and crime.

So, struggling for traction, Mr. Specter has in recent days upended the fundamental premise of his campaign: He now plays up his record on crime and foreign policy and his proposal earlier this month to scrap the federal income tax system for a 20 percent flat tax.

Conceding in an interview

that his was an uphill battle, Mr. Specter said of his critics: "People think that somebody who's pro-choice and is a centrist will have such a difficult time with the Republicans who attended the Houston convention. But I think we've made some progress."

Yet Mr. Specter's sometimes shifting positions have come at a cost. In 1987, he angered conservatives by playing a pivotal role in sinking Robert Bork's nomination to the Supreme Court. Then he offended many moderates by his role as chief interrogator of Anita F. Hill, who had accused the Supreme Court nominee Clarence Thomas of sexual harassment.

While people respect him for his intellect, Mr. Specter has had a hard time making amends because of an abrasive

style that he fine-tuned during two terms as district attorney of Philadelphia.

Still, Mr. Specter is regarded as an equal-opportunity combatant.

"I've seen him tear lobbyists apart who have given tons of money to his campaigns," said Tom Dahlquist, a staff counsel to Mr. Specter during the Hill-Thomas hearings.

"He's a brilliant thinker," he added. "But there's a time to turn off the prosecutor, and he never really learned that."

Roger Stone, a Washington lobbyist who is Mr. Specter's chief strategist, insisted that the senator's manner had little to do with his political viability.

"If personalism were the pre-requisite, we never would have nominated Richard Nixon,"

said Mr. Stone, who was a close adviser to the late president.

More so than personality, Mr. Stone said, Mr. Specter's religion might be a handicap.

But the biggest immediate problem looming for Mr. Specter is settling on a message. Last year, as religious conservatives were making inroads in Republican groups around the country, Mr. Specter deliberately thrust himself into the fray.

"My biggest fear," he said, "is that they spread intolerance and divisiveness — there's a lot of bigotry that underlies what they're doing. This country was founded on religious freedom, and my father came here to escape persecution from the Cossacks."

In a recent memorandum, Mr. Stone laid out Mr. Specter's game plan: "A fiscally conser-

vative, socially moderate candidate can win Republican primaries in Iowa and New Hampshire with less than a majority in a multicandidate field."

But with Mr. Wilson in the equation, Mr. Specter now puts forth a drastically different explanation for his candidacy.

"I'm running because I've got the ideas and the energy and the energy to provide leadership for America going into the 21st century," he said.

Then he ticked off a list of credentials as a fiscal conservative, from his expertise on crime to his flat tax proposal to his new chairmanship of the Intelligence Committee. Almost as an afterthought, he mentioned abortion and religious conserva-

Mexico Rebels Seek Talks, but Officials Are Wary

By Tim Golden
New York Times Service

MEXICO CITY — In their first concrete proposal for new peace talks with the government, rebels in the southern state of Chiapas have called for a wide-ranging discussion to be held in Mexico City.

Arguing that the army's occupation of the territory they once held in Chiapas made talks impossible, the rebels suggested in a communiqué dated March 24 that the two sides meet along with other political groups in the capital.

Government and rebel representatives met for several hours on Jan. 15, but they have not held any substantive negotiations since talks in the Chiapas city of San Cristóbal de las Casas ended more than a

year ago, shortly after the uprising began. Political tensions in Chiapas have continued to rise in recent days, as more than a half-dozen people have been killed in clashes that have set landholders and government officials against leftist political groups and landless peasants.

The rebel group has demanded the withdrawal of thousands of army troops that pointed into the remote area it controlled until early February.

The Zapatistas fled ahead of the army's advance, and they have been holding out since with thousands of their supporters in remote areas of the rain forest.

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Or dial 123 from mobile phones.

Or dial 123 from pay phones.

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THE AMERICAS

ECONOMIC CONFERENCE OF THE PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT

MONEY TALKS — President Bill Clinton listening to business owners at an economic conference in Atlanta, one of four such seminars organized by the White House this year.

POLITICAL NOTES

Heflin Won't Seek 4th Term

WASHINGTON — Senator Howell Heflin, Democrat of Alabama, has said he will not seek re-election to a fourth term next year, dealing another blow to Democratic hopes of winning back control of the Senate in the 1996 elections.

Mr. Heflin, 73, is the fourth Democrat — all from politically competitive states — to announce plans to step down next year, compared with one announced retiree among the Republicans. While Alabama is a traditionally Democratic state, Mr. Heflin's Senate colleague, Senator Richard C. Shelby, abandoned the Democratic Party and became a Republican after elections last year. Republicans can be expected to make a strong bid to pick up Mr. Heflin's seat.

A rumpel, bear-like figure with perhaps the slowest drawl in the Senate, Mr. Heflin — hailed as a "son of the Old South" by one colleague — announced his impending departure in a speech to the Senate on Wednesday. (WP)

Calls for Controls on D.C.

WASHINGTON — A congressional panel recommended Wednesday that the strictest financial controls ever devised for a U.S. city be imposed on the District of Columbia, a step that members said was needed to rehabilitate the "tarnished" image of the nation's capital.

In a unanimous vote, the House District subcommittee moved to create a presidentially appointed board to re-order the district's finances and restructure its government. The bill also calls for a new chief financial officer, who "may Marion S. Barry said would have more 'responsibility' over the government than he does."

Dole's 'Front-Runner' Tag

WASHINGTON — Most presidential candidates stay away from the "front-runner" designation lest they build expectations they cannot meet. But Senator Bob Dole of Kansas has no such compunctions.

CIA Is to Settle Sex Bias Cases

By Walter Pincus
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The Central Intelligence Agency has tentatively agreed to give more than 250 women case officers back pay totaling nearly \$1 million and 25 retrospective promotions as part of a settlement to head off a gender-based discrimination suit, according to agency officials and lawyers for the women.

Also included in the settlement agreement, which is scheduled to be signed this week, is the promise of 20 "stretch" and "career-enhancing" assignments at the middle-grade levels that in the past were not normally given to women. In addition, 15 women who transferred out of the case-officer status will be allowed to return to their former roles.

Although some retired and active women case officers were said to be dissatisfied with the terms, Michelle Alison Fishburne, the Washington attorney who represented the women, said, "I believe we have overwhelming support for the agreement."

Away From Politics

• A man who sprayed the White House with gunfire last October fantasized about eating Hillary Rodham Clinton's heart and said killing President Bill Clinton "would be very personal, very joyous," doctors told a jury at the trial of Francisco Martin Duran, who is charged with trying to kill the president. (Reuters)

• The U.S. government's main informant in the trial of a radical Moslem cleric and his followers has admitted that he hired an agent to try to sell his story to a book publisher or moviemaker. Emad Salem, a former Egyptian military officer, testified during cross-examination that he was trying to make money off his undercover work. (AP)

• The U.S. Army says it will discipline nine instructors in the deaths of four army Ranger trainees last month. The four soldiers died of exposure Feb. 15 after spending four or five hours in chest-deep water in a chilly swamp near Fort Benning, Georgia. (AP)

• A triple murderer who requested the death penalty has changed his mind just days before his scheduled execution. Attorneys representing Martin Appel say he was not competent to plead guilty to killing three bank employees during a 1986 bank robbery. (AP)

By Tim Weiner
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration, in a show of public anger over the killing of an American, cut off military aid to Guatemala in 1990, but secretly allowed the CIA to send millions of dollars to the military government to make up for the loss, according to members of the Bush and Clinton administrations.

The payments apparently continued into the Clinton administration but it could not be learned if they are still being made.

About \$5 million to \$7 million flowed annually from the CIA through the agency's Guatemala station to the military, officials said.

The delivery of funds started after the White House formally halted military aid approved by Congress in a public display of frustration at the Guatemalan military's failure to assist in the investigation of the killing of the American, Michael DeVine, the officials said. Mr. DeVine, an innkeeper in the northern forests, was killed by Guatemalan soldiers in June 1990.

Two Bush administration officials familiar with the payments, who insisted on not being identified, said the money did not buy weapons but went

to mollify the Guatemalan military and to pay CIA sources.

"The agency ran this program on the basis that it was the key to keeping U.S. policymakers informed about what was going on within the Guatemalan government and the Guatemalan military," an official said. But he noted that it did not buy crucial information about the death of Mr. DeVine.

The apparent contradiction between the public policy and the approval of secret funds raises the question of how deeply committed the White House and the CIA were to investigating Mr. DeVine's death.

Representative Robert G. Torricelli, Democrat of New Jersey, who is a member of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, has linked a CIA agent, Colonel Julian Roberto Alpírez of the Guatemalan Army, to the killing of Mr. DeVine and to the death of a guerrilla leader who was married to an American lawyer.

Within the Bush administration, some officials said, there were arguments over whether the administration was being hypocritical by sending contradictory messages to the Guatemalan military.

"Guatemalan military officers told us: 'You guys are crazy. You shut us down in public, and then you give us stuff

through the back door, and everyone in the military knows it,'" a Bush administration official said.

The CIA's payments to the Guatemalan military apparently fell under the veil of a "liaison" relationship with a foreign intelligence service, the Bush administration official said. The details of such relationships are rarely shared with congressional oversight committees. It is not known whether Congress was informed in this instance.

The Bush administration's public decision to withhold military aid to Guatemala in 1990 came as Ambassador Thomas F. Stroock was protesting increasing rights abuses in Guatemala and the inability or unwillingness of political leaders there to assert control the army.

Washington cut economic aid to Guatemala to \$113.4 million in 1990, from \$141.3 million in 1989; military aid fell to

\$3.3 million, from \$7 million in 1990. The State Department also placed Guatemala on its list of major drug-trafficking countries.

Mr. DeVine was kidnapped and nearly beheaded by members of the Guatemalan military in June 1990. His body was discovered near a Guatemalan Army special forces training camp run by Colonel Alpírez, the officer accused by Mr. Torricelli of complicity in the murder. At the time, the colonel was on the payroll of the CIA. Mr. Torricelli said.

Mr. Stroock said in an interview that he sent his military attaché, Colonel Allen C. Cornell, to interview Colonel Alpírez at his jungle base but that the attaché was rebuffed.

Mr. Stroock said he went to see the CIA station chief after Colonel Cornell reported the incident.

"I looked him in the eye and I said, 'Are any of your assets'

involved in this?'" the former ambassador said. "And he said no. And I believed him. I had absolutely no idea that Alpírez was a CIA asset."

But Mr. Stroock said that after Colonel Alpírez refused to cooperate, he told senior officials that the U.S. Embassy that they were not to help the colonel again.

Colonel Alpírez received at least \$60,000 from the CIA between the time of the killing and the end of his financial relationship with the CIA in the summer of 1992, administration officials have said.

A third former high-ranking State Department official said he was certain the CIA did not inform the State Department and the National Security Council that Colonel Alpírez was its paid agent, even after the department received intelligence reports in 1991 that the colonel was implicated in the DeVine case.

U.S. Probes Role in Murders**Agency Allegedly Shreds Data on Guatemala Contact**

By R. Jeffrey Smith
Washington Post Service

where documents allegedly were being destroyed.

The actions came after Representative Robert G. Torricelli, Democrat of New Jersey, informed the White House and the Justice Department of allegations by an anonymous employee of the National Security Agency that the army and the NSA may have known about the two murders when they occurred.

According to the allegations, the army may have been involved in the murders and both agencies were trying to conceal their roles by shredding documents.

The multiple inquiries raised the prospect of a broad government inquiry into U.S. actions during the 1980s and early 1990s to assist the Guatemalan military in waging a war against a leftist peasant insurgency. More than 100,000 Guatemalan citizens perished in the war.

An unsigned letter received late Tuesday by Mr. Torricelli, printed on National Security Agency stationery, claimed that "extensive communication intercepts by NSA in Guatemala during the time of these murders clearly substantiate that the CIA and the DOD knew, at that time, the circumstances" of the murders. The DOD is the Department of Defense.

The claim conflicts with the public statement last week by William Studeman, the acting CIA director, that the agency did not know the circumstances surrounding the two deaths until long after they occurred.

Judge Rejects Policy On Gays in Military

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — A federal judge ruled Thursday against the Clinton administration's "don't ask, don't tell" policy on homosexuals in the military, saying that it was discriminatory and violated free-speech rights.

The U.S. district judge, Eugene Nickerson, issued the ruling on a suit brought by six homosexuals in the military who challenged the policy, which calls for the honorable discharge of service members who go public with their homosexuality.

"The policy of the act is not only inherently deceptive, it also offers powerful inducements to homosexuals to lie," Judge Nickerson wrote in a 39-page ruling, the first issued since the policy was established two years ago.

Pentagon officials had no immediate comment about the ruling.

Before the judge's decision, lawyers for both sides indicated they expected the case to be appealed, possibly all the way to the Supreme Court.

Discharge proceedings had been under way against three of the plaintiffs. All six remain on active duty.

Judge Nickerson said that even if the government intended that the law "prevent the commission of prohibited 'acts' or appease heterosexual prejudices," it had failed to make its case.

A key government argument was that the presence of homosexuals would damage "unit cohesion" and undermine the military's mission.

"Even if defendants do believe that heterosexual service members will be so upset by a co-worker's mere statement of homosexuality as not to work cooperatively in the unit, such a belief does not justify a discriminatory policy," the judge wrote.

When Congress adopted the "don't ask, don't tell" rule in 1993, it was an attempted compromise between the views of gay-rights advocates and those adamantly opposed to homosexuals in the military. The policy allows gay men and women to serve as long as they keep their sexual orientation to themselves and do not engage in homosexual acts.

An estimated 200 service members have been discharged under the policy or are awaiting decisions. President Bill Clinton

ton, who had vowed to end discrimination against homosexuals in the military during the 1992 presidential campaign, has said he thinks the policy is working.

In arguments before Judge Nickerson, a government lawyer, Margaret Plank, said that the unique demands of military life — including tight living quarters and a need for teamwork — required the exclusion of those who openly acknowledge their homosexuality.

Matthew Coles, a lawyer for the American Civil Liberties Union, said the law was based on prejudice and forced homosexuals to "choose between serving their country or living a cash." (LAT)

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ASIA



QUEEN IN CHINA — A monk giving a sash to Queen Sofia of Spain, with King Juan Carlos I looking on, during the couple's visit Thursday to a temple in Beijing.

Beijing Is Worried About Sea Levels**Report Links Global Warming to Threat of Coastal Floods***Agence France-Presse*

BEIJING — Rising sea levels will inundate Shanghai, Guangzhou and other major Chinese coastal cities unless drastic measures are taken to slow global warming, according to a government-backed report.

The report, issued Wednesday by China's National Environmental Protection Agency, the United Nations Development Program and the World Bank, listed the threat of widespread flooding as one of the "staggering" environmental implications of China's rapid economic growth.

By 2050, rising sea levels could threaten 92,000 square kilometers (34,750 square miles) of land and displace 76 million people, the report said.

The impact would be concentrated in China's coastal areas, which constitute the power base of the country's rapid economic growth.

The report, entitled "Issues and Options in China's Greenhouse Gas Emissions Control," forecast a sea-level rise of up to 70 centimeters (27 inches) off Shanghai and 60 centimeters off southern Guangdong Province's Pearl River Delta region.

"If China's coastal areas are not protected, a one-meter increase in the sea level will flood regions lying below a four-meter contour line in China's coastal plains when combined with tide and storm surges," the report said.

It said the inundated areas would include 14 cities and counties in the Pearl River Delta and 34 cities and counties in eastern China.

While China is expected to be a major victim of climate changes resulting from the greenhouse effect, it is also one of the world's biggest contributors to the problem.

China's 76 percent dependency on coal as an energy source means that it now accounts for 10 percent of the world's carbon dioxide emissions. The report estimated that China's demand for the fuel would triple to 3.1 billion tons by 2020.

With China burning this much coal, the rest of the world would need to cut carbon dioxide emissions by one-third just to maintain global 1990 levels.

INTERNATIONAL CLASSIFIED**TODAY'S****SUMMER IN
FRANCE**

Appears on Page 11

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EUROPE

Trip Off, Raising Doubts on Yeltsin

By Carol J. Williams
Los Angeles Times Service

MOSCOW — President Boris N. Yeltsin of Russia has abandoned his cross-country journey to retreat to a secluded state dacha, his advisers disclosed Wednesday, scrapping what was to have been a two-week tour of the provinces aimed at getting in touch with the people.

Mr. Yeltsin will remain at the bevy guarded compound outside the southern city of Kislovodsk for the rest of his spring vacation, the Itar-Tass news agency reported, quoting "sources close to the president."

The sudden change in plans — at least the third departure from the announced schedule since the trip began Monday — stirred speculation about Mr. Yeltsin's health as he appeared weak and disoriented Monday during a short visit to the city of Ryazan.

Mr. Yeltsin's office announced two weeks ago that he would travel across Russia by train, stopping at Ryazan, Rostov-on-Don and Kislovodsk en route to the seaside resort of Sochi, where he would spend the last few days of his vacation.

But after the highly orchestrated Ryazan visit, he left the train behind and flew with

his security entourage to Kislovodsk, leaving local officials in Rostov with their city dressed up for a presidential visit that never happened.

"He is likely to spend most of his time at the dacha and waive a trip to Sochi planned earlier," Itar-Tass reported.

The sprawling spa facility where Mr. Yeltsin is staying was built for Communist Party chiefs by Leonid I. Brezhnev and is still known among Russians as "Brezhnev's dacha."

The presidential press secretary, Sergei K. Medvedev, who returned to Moscow when Mr. Yeltsin opted to skip the planned provincial visits, said the president spent Wednesday swimming and playing tennis.

Another Yeltsin aide, Sergei V. Svetunov, brushed off suggestions that the change of plans was anything more than the prerogative of a busy man taking some time off.

"He is on vacation and, naturally, free to alter the schedule of it," Mr. Svetunov said. "This does not mean he has rejected the idea of meeting common people in the street. He may do this later."

A local official in the Caucasus region of Kabardino-Balkaria told the Interfax news agency that Mr. Yeltsin planned to visit

them next Wednesday. But that visit has not been confirmed by Mr. Yeltsin's staff.

"There may have been some sudden worsening of his health," said Mikhail Berger, a senior political commentator for the newspaper *Izvestia*. He said that, in Ryazan, "He looked far from his best form the way he walked, looked and especially his speech."

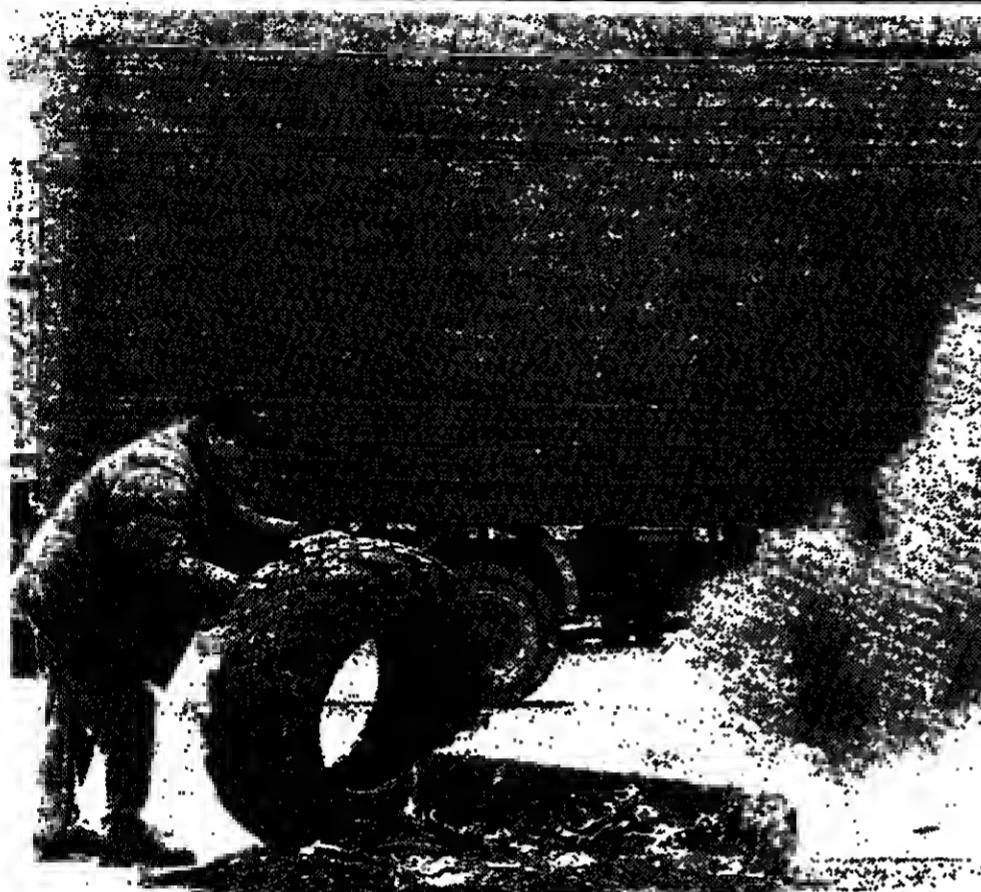
Western diplomats noted that Mr. Yeltsin had a long history of spontaneity, but said the latest improvisations might be cause for concern in light of recent instances when he appeared frail and dazed.

Television footage from a February visit to Kazakhstan showed him needing assistance to climb stairs. In a bizarre incident in September, Mr. Yeltsin failed to emerge from his plane to meet with the Israeli prime minister during a scheduled stopover at Shannon Airport.

Mr. Yeltsin has also recently postponed several official visits, but these changes were attributed to political or logistical problems.

A state visit to Ukraine has been repeatedly rescheduled since last fall, but Mr. Medvedev said last week that the obstacle to that trip was the failure of the two countries to agree on a division of the ships and bases of the Soviet-built Black Sea Fleet.

BRIEFLY EUROPE



A Greek farmer burning tires Thursday near a blockade on the main highway.

Limit on Vetoes Is Urged

BRUSSELS — The European Parliament's largest group called on the European Union on Thursday to limit member states' rights to block legislation they do not like.

In a paper prepared for the EU's constitutional review next year, the 221-member Socialist Group said it wanted to get rid of national vetoes "in all but the most vital areas."

It also made a bid for the Parliament, the EU's only directly elected body, to have equal footing with the Council of Ministers in approving legislation for the 15-nation bloc. The council is the EU's decision-making body, comprised of representatives of national governments. Unanimity is still required among EU states for the most sensitive issues, such as taxation or institutional issues. (Reuters)

trade agreement frozen by the 15-nation bloc last month.

He said Moscow had taken "backward steps" in Chechnya by refusing to cooperate with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, blocking humanitarian aid and stepping up military operations in defiance of the EU's calls for a cease-fire. (Reuters)

Greeks to Widen Blockades

ATHENS — Greek farmers in revolt against a new law threatening to extend blockades of major road and rail links Thursday, plunging the socialist government into a deeper crisis over how to handle the 11-day protest. Radio reports said the farmers, who have cut the main north-south road and rail links, were now blocking traffic heading for the airport at Saloniciki, Greece's second city and main northern port.

The farmers were also grouping in Corinth and threatening to block the bridge that connects the rich farm region of the southern Peloponnese to the rest of the country, reports said. (Reuters)

Calendar**★ ★ ★****European Union events scheduled for Friday:**

BRUSSELS: The EU external relations commissioner, Hans van den Broek, meets Vice Chancellor Erhard Busch of Austria.

PARIS: The EU economic and monetary union commissioner, Yves-Thibault de Silguy, attends a meeting of the Council of the EU Banking Federation.

ROTTERDAM: Neil Kinnock, the EU transport commissioner, meets the Netherlands' transport minister, Annemarie Jonkman.

LONDON: Sir Leon Brittan, the EU trade commissioner, visits northeast England.

BRUSSELS: European and national members of Parliament of the European Popular Party complete the interparliamentary conference on the revision of the European Union treaty, slated in 1996. Wilfried Martens, president of the European Popular Group, and Marcelino Oreja, commissioner for institutional affairs, will conclude the discussion.

Sources: Agence Europe, AFP.

Turkish Arms Ban Unlikely

PARIS — The European Union is not planning to impose an arms embargo on Turkey, which has deployed troops in northern Iraq to fight Turkish Kurdish separatists. French diplomats said Thursday.

The EU policy would not be affected by Germany's unilateral decision Wednesday to suspend arms shipments to Turkey because of the continuing Turkish offensive.

The diplomats here also confirmed that France is to deliver a first shipment of Cougar troop transport helicopters to Turkey "within the next few weeks."

The diplomats said the 15-member EU, of which France holds the six-month rotating presidency, is preparing to release a formal statement on respecting human rights. (AFP)

Warning to Moscow Sought

PARIS — France wants the European Union to take a tougher line toward Moscow because of its actions in Chechnya, a senior Foreign Ministry official said Thursday.

The official said that Foreign Minister Alain Juppé, the president of the EU's Council of Ministers, was pressing for a joint statement warning Russia that it would have to reverse its policy in Chechnya to win approval of an interim

treaty agreement frozen by the 15-nation bloc last month.

He said Moscow had taken "backward steps" in Chechnya by refusing to cooperate with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, blocking humanitarian aid and stepping up military operations in defiance of the EU's calls for a cease-fire. (Reuters)

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Sources: Agence Europe, AFP.

Court to Rule on Tapie Bankruptcy

Reuter

PARIS — The turbulent affairs of Bernard Tapie could enter a new chapter on Friday when a court is to decide whether the politician and entrepreneur should be barred from public office and his business empire liquidated.

Mr. Tapie already faces a possible prison term over charges that he rigged a soccer match involving the team he owned, Olympique Marseille. The ruling Friday could be the

final blow to a career that has spanned sports, business and politics.

A three-judge panel will rule on Mr. Tapie's appeal against a business court's finding that he is personally bankrupt.

Should the judges uphold the bankruptcy ruling, his business holdings would be sold off to pay his debts.

This would lead to a procedure to strip him of his seats in the French and European parliaments, since French law bars

bankrupt individuals from elected office for five years.

Mr. Tapie, a former minister in a Socialist-led cabinet and a self-made millionaire now deeply in debt, has been the target of a wave of legal proceedings on charges ranging from tax evasion to insulting judicial authorities.

In January, an appeals court rejected his plea to suspend the bankruptcy ruling, which has effectively kept him out of this year's French presidential campaign and may also disqualify him from his longtime goal of running for mayor of Marseille in June.

The bankruptcy ruling was initiated by the state-owned bank Crédit Lyonnais, which said he owed it 1.2 billion francs (\$245 million) in unpaid loans.

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Role Reversal for U.S. at Rights Hearing

By Julia Preston
Washington Post Service

UNITED NATIONS. New York — The United States had to swallow a big dose of its own medicine when senior American officials came for the first time to defend their country's human-rights record for mainly before the United Nations.

A high-powered delegation including John H. F. Shattuck, assistant secretary of state for human rights, and Deval L. Patrick, assistant attorney general for civil rights, gave the United States' first report on its compliance with a key international human-rights treaty.

Right experts chided the United States for endorsing the treaty only half-heartedly and keeping laws on its books that allow capital punishment for teenagers. Nongovernmental rights monitoring groups used the opportunity to unleash a barrage of criticism.

It was unusual role reversal for the Clinton administration, which prides itself on vigorous scrutiny of rights violations by other governments and has often used the United Nations to press its case against offending nations.

The United States ratified the International Covenant on Civil and Political

Rights in 1992. Like every other signer, it must periodically report on measures it is taking to meet terms of the treaty.

Hearings are held by the International Human Rights Committee, an independent body that includes leading authorities on rights law. This week, the United States is presenting its first report.

Mr. Shattuck's statement called the United States a "work in progress" in its human-rights practices.

"Our system is not perfect," he said. But he added that the "essential genius" of the Founding Fathers lay in their creating a system through which injustices "could be addressed and rectified, through the will of the people, under the rule of law."

In an interview, he said that being part of the treaty strengthens the United States' hand in dealing with abusive governments. "We're in full compliance with the treaty and have a system of civil liberties that is a model for the rest of the world," he said.

Mr. Patrick presented a long list of legal actions the administration has initiated to enforce anti-discrimination laws.

Committee members were concerned about reservations the United States tucked onto the treaty when it signed. In one, it declared that the pact does not automatically become domestic law. The U.S. position is that American laws al-

ready meet the covenants' standards. As a result, the treaty cannot be used as a basis for action in American courts.

Orman Shafei, who is from Egypt, ex-
told the United States' overall record.

"People around the world look to your country as a yardstick for justice and fair play," he said. But he worried that the covenant would become "a dead letter" in this country because of the U.S. conditions.

Cecilia Medina Quiroga of Chile wondered whether the failure of the Equal Rights Amendment would put the United States out of sync with the treaty. Julio Prado Valdés of Ecuador asserted that California's Proposition 187, which limits benefits to illegal immigrants, had created "discrimination against Latin American minorities."

Human-rights monitoring groups were even more outspoken. The U.S. treaty adherence "is purely cosmetic and has no practical value for Americans," said Kenneth Roth, executive director of Human Rights Watch.

Amnesty International said that "allegations of torture and ill-treatment in jails and prison are widespread" and that "police brutality is widespread and persistent in many areas."

Keep Quiet About 'Dirty War,' Menem Urges

By Calvin Sims
New York Times Service

BUENOS AIRES — President Carlos Saúl Menem has called on former military torturers and murderers to confess to priests and not to "rub salt in old wounds" by publicly recounting their deeds.

"Publicly coming forward to give testimony is a way of returning to the terrible past that we are trying to forget," he said.

Mr. Menem, who is running for re-election in May, accused "some of the media" of playing up recent revelations

by a former navy captain, Adolfo Francisco Scilingo, who said the military disposed of hundreds of political prisoners by throwing them alive or unconscious into the ocean from aircraft.

In a radio interview, Mr. Menem said the Argentine people were tired of hearing about the military's "dirty war" of repression during the 1970s. He blamed the news media and former military officers for keeping "this horrible memory" alive.

Mr. Scilingo's disclosure has prompted other former military men to come forward in recent weeks. A former navy conscript, Raúl Alberto Guaró, said that

in the 1970s he overheard his superior officers discussing instances when they "threw live people into the ocean."

And a retired army captain, Héctor Pedro Verges, said both military and civilians should tell all that they know about the dirty war "for the good of national reconciliation."

Human-rights groups and the families of victims said that they were shocked and disappointed by Mr. Menem's statements.

A national commission has determined that 4,000 people were killed under the military government and that 9,000 people disappeared.

U.S. Says It Warned Haiti of Plot to Kill Lawyer

By Eric Schmitt
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — The United States alerted the Haitian government last week that a prominent opposition figure who was shot and killed in Port-au-Prince this week was the target of a plot, according to administration officials.

The Haitian justice minister, Jean Joseph Exume, warned Mireille Durocher Bertrand, a lawyer, but she declined gov-

ernment protection in favor of her personal bodyguard, the officials said.

She was a leading supporter of the 1991 military coup in which President Jean-Bertrand Aristide was ousted.

Responding to a government's inability to maintain public order, Father Aristide asked the FBI on Wednesday to take over the hunt for the assassins as Haitian and American officials prepared for a visit on Friday by President Bill Clinton.

The information about the plot emerged after members of the U.S.-led military force in Haiti arrested at least two Haitians, who admitted under questioning that they had been planning to kill Ms. Durocher Bertrand, 38.

They also said that one or more people connected to the Aristide government were behind the plot, according to administration officials. American officials in Haiti also gave this information to the Aristide government last week, but it American officials said.

BOOKS

MARIE CURIE: A Life

By Susan Quinn. 509 pages. \$30. Simon & Schuster.

Reviewed by
Marcia Bartusiak

WITH this new and long-awaited biography of Marie Curie, Susan Quinn strives to peel back layers of myth and idealization that have grown up around Marie Curie, stories that have flourished ever since Eve Curie wrote the celebrated book about her mother's life nearly 60 years ago. She succeeds beautifully. Quinn has written a worthy successor to her award-winning biography of the American psychiatrist Karen Horney.

Quinn's portrait of Curie is rich and captivating. She doesn't demolish the myth (Curie's industry and intelligence remain indisputable); rather, Quinn engagingly fleshes out the saga, allowing us to see both the physician and the woman.

While adopting a cool, seamless exterior, Curie's inner emotions run deep. Four years after the tragic death of her devoted husband and collaborator, Pierre, Curie cast off her bereavement by engaging in a scandalous affair with a married man, a liaison that almost cost her a second Nobel Prize.

BRIDGE

By Alan Truscott

IN the diagramed deal East eventually doubled five hearts, an action that was certainly correct in one sense: East-West could not make four spades, let alone five. But beating five hearts was not as easy as East expected.

A club lead to East's ten would have settled the issue, but West had no reason to pick that suit. He knew that a minor suit lead was indicated, but guessed wrong with a diamond.

East took his diamond ace and shifted to the club ace. When West discouraged with the four, East returned to diamonds in the hope that his partner could ruff. South now saw that he could succeed with an even trump split, for he could use the diamonds. He planned to cash the king and ace of hearts, in that order, a plan that was due to succeed.

But when he led the heart king, a surprising thing happened: West played the heart queen. South inspected this card and naturally concluded that it was a singleton. He

WHAT THEY'RE READING

• Feisal Khalil, marketing manager of the London Dungeon, is reading "All the Pretty Horses" by Cormac McCarthy. "This adventure story has a peaceful, spiritual view of the world and describes a time when humans were living closer to nature. Given the nature of my job, it's like a restorative cure. I can escape the horror by just dipping into this whimsical romance." (Marcelle Katz, IHT)



Quinn's story is made more vivid by new evidence, in particular a personal journal that Curie started to keep shortly after her husband's death and that was first made available to researchers only five years ago.

It is a story that deals with jealousy, misogyny, love, bitterness, revenge and determination, as well as scientific insight at the cutting edge.

Born in 1867 in Poland, Curie was the fifth and last child of Wladyslaw and Bronislawa Skłodowska, struggling educators whose ancestors had been members of Poland's landed gentry. A polymath, Curie's father immersed his children in an atmosphere of learning, both serious and playful. Little Ma-

ria Skłodowska was a precocious child, though volatile and emotional, traits likely exacerbated by the death of her mother from tuberculosis when Maria was only 10.

Curie decided to study physics and mathematics while working as a governess to help pay for her older sister's medical education. That she was ambitious was clear: marooned in Poland's hinterlands, she once despaired in a letter of "ever becoming anybody." But a doomed relationship with her employer's son, her first love, spurred her on to Paris at the age of 23 to join her sister.

She finished first in her science exam at the Sorbonne and second in mathematics. Teaching in Poland would have been her likely career, if not for her fatal meeting with Pierre Curie in the spring of 1894 to seek advice on a project.

It was two years after her marriage that Curie thrust herself into the forefront of modern physics by perceptively choosing to study a new phenomenon that surprisingly few were following up on: the astounding rays emitted by uranium compounds. Henri Becquerel first discovered

the effect; the Curies would name it — radioactivity.

When Curie received the Nobel Prize for physics in 1903, along with Becquerel and her husband, she confronted many prejudices. While feminists mistakenly saw Pierre as riding on his wife's coattails, reactionary thinkers spuriously cast Marie as mere helpmate to Pierre's great genius.

Curie's overwhelming grief at Pierre's death in 1906 did not abate until a consoling friendship with physicist Paul Langevin, a former student of Pierre's, turned into deep passion. France's tabloid press had a heyday, and for good reason. The story involved a love nest, stolen love letters, murderous threats against Marie by Langevin's insanely jealous wife, and a duel between Langevin and the journalist who exposed their affair.

After the scandal, Curie essentially took on the role of elder scientist, her most original work behind her. Despite Curie's international acclaim, the French Academy of Sciences determined to remain a male domain. Until her death in 1934, she devoted her life to directing the Institute of Radium, going on tour to raise funding, raising her two children (daughter Irène went on to win her own Nobel Prize) and establishing medical uses for radioactive elements.

Quinn replaces an icon with a fully dimensional person, a woman who can now serve to inspire future chemists and physicists even more.

Marcia Bartusiak, a contributing editor of Discover magazine and the author of "Thursday's Universe" and "Through a Universe Darkly," wrote this for The Washington Post.

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EDITORIALS / OPINION

Herald Tribune
INTERNATIONAL

PUBLISHED WITH THE NEW YORK TIMES AND THE WASHINGTON POST

Wrong Move on Libya

Libya continues to shield two suspects wanted for the terrorist bombing of a Pan Am airliner over Lockerbie, Scotland, in 1988 that killed 270 people. In a well-intentioned but flawed effort to press Libya to turn them over, the Clinton administration has proposed tighter economic sanctions. Tougher sanctions make sense in theory, but the administration's proposal for a global embargo on Libyan oil sales is unlikely to get international support. It will not produce the justice that the victims' families seek or the terrorists deserve.

The UN Security Council will take up sanctions next month. The council has already embargoed military sales, banned air links, prohibited the sale of oil-drilling equipment to Libya and frozen some of its foreign assets. The problem with an oil embargo is that Amer-

ican oil companies do little business with Libya. That means America's allies would have to cooperate to make it effective, and they have little financial incentive to do so. Italy, Spain and Germany buy large quantities of Libyan crude and would find it expensive to seek alternative suppliers. Libyan oil is light, easy to refine and can be transported to Europe at reasonable cost.

America's allies in North Africa would also bear the brunt of an embargo, especially Tunisia, which is exploring oil on its border with Libya, and Egypt, which counts on remittances from the thousands of Egyptians who work in Libyan oil fields.

To step up the pressure on Libya, Washington needs sanctions that other countries can support.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES

Oil and National Security

Half of America's oil supply is now imported, compared with a third in the mid-1980s. Does the rising dependence on foreign oil constitute a threat to American national security? Senator Jesse Helms and the Foreign Relations Committee held a hearing on that critical question the other day.

The short answer is "no," in the conventional sense of national security and the ability to fuel American military power in a crisis. The Defense Department testified that it could fight two major regional wars nearly simultaneously with about one-eighth of current domestic oil production.

But instability in the Gulf is always a threat to the American economy—and that is true whether imports are one-tenth of the country's supply or nine-tenths. The reason is that it is a worldwide market, and when a shortage abroad sends prices shooting upward, they shoot upward in America as well.

American production has been falling slowly ever since 1986, when the price for crude oil collapsed. The American fields have been worked for a long time, and production is much more expensive than in the Middle East. Many domestic oil producers would like to see import quotas to raise the price of oil at home above world levels, and they emphasize national security in their lobbying campaigns. But the country had plenty of

experience with oil import quotas from the late 1950s to the early 1970s, and they were disastrous. It is a very costly way to get a very little more oil.

The Energy Department told Senator Helms that it will shortly offer a series of recommendations stopping well short of import quotas or, for that matter, tax breaks. They will mostly involve regulatory relief for small producers.

Fully one-fourth of the world's oil supply now comes from the Gulf countries, according to the International Energy Agency, which means that there will certainly be further crises and disruptions. In the past 22 years, since the first crisis, the United States has done a lot to protect itself. The electric utilities have moved almost entirely away from oil. Similarly, residential and commercial customers have largely shifted to other fuels for heating. Conservation has very effectively cut consumption of energy by industry. Oil use is now heavily concentrated on the highway.

Vulnerability could be reduced, as in other countries, by a stiff tax on gasoline. But Americans have chosen to reject that. The result is that an oil shortage would have a horrendous impact on transportation and commuting, as anyone who remembers the last one in 1980 can testify. But that is not quite a threat to the national security.

—THE WASHINGTON POST

A Judge Goes to Bat

After bouncing from the bargaining table to the White House to Congress without resolution, the baseball stalemate is headed toward federal court just days before the season is scheduled to start. Whether Judge Sonja Sotomayor of New York can get the big-leaguers back on the field is unclear, but she should take a shot.

The National Labor Relations Board is bearing down on her court, seeking an injunction to restore bargaining issues that the owners have taken off the table. If she rules in the board's favor, which she can do for valid legal reasons, the players would end their strike. The owners could still scuttle a real season by locking out the players, but it is not certain a three-fourths majority would support that step.

In determining whether to issue an injunction, Judge Sotomayor must consider two issues. The first is whether the board is probably right in its preliminary finding that the owners may have engaged in unfair bargaining by intentionally eliminating salary arbitration, free-agent bidding and anti-collision provisions from the negotiations. The owners say

those provisions need not be subject to mandatory collective bargaining, but the NLRB siding with the players, disagrees.

While the board reviews the matter further, it has asked the court to order the owners to put these issues back into the negotiations. Courts are supposed to give the Labor Board the benefit of the doubt when it seeks this sort of temporary relief.

The second test the judge must weigh is whether court intervention is required in the broad public interest of fostering efficient labor relations. There is such a requirement in this case because if the board and the players are right, the owners would unjustly benefit from their unilateral action during the long NLRB proceedings that lie ahead. That would reward them for violating labor law, a setback for orderly collective bargaining. Again, labor law calls on judges to recognize the Labor Board's expertise and preliminary findings.

Judge Sotomayor may not be a baseball fan — she says she only follows the game — but she can certainly appreciate the game if she can get the game unstuck.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES

Other Comment**A Real U.S. Interest in Bosnia**

Many people, while sympathizing with the Bosnian Muslims, find the situation too confusing, too complicating and too frustrating. Some are even tempted to throw up their hands. They say Bosnia is a tragedy but it is not our tragedy. They say we should wash our hands and simply walk away. This view is not only questionable from a moral standpoint, it is also flat-out wrong from a national security standpoint. It is true that we do not have what I would call vital national security interests in Bosnia. That is to say the survival of the United States is not threatened by actions in Bosnia. But we do have a security interest in preventing the violence from spreading and from stimulating a broader European war. We do have a security interest in limiting the violence and the flow of refugees, and we certainly have a humanitar-

ian interest in mitigating the violence.

—From a speech in Baltimore by William Perry, the U.S. defense secretary, quoted in *The Washington Post*.

A Message for Iraq and Others

Other countries are looking to the response that we give to Saddam Hussein. Other countries that do not wish us well always want to know what kind of a reaction is going to come from America. And we need to indicate up front that we take these things very seriously — especially with Iraq and all the problems that we were having with Saddam constantly testing the system, seeing whether the alliance might falter. The problem is not simply the two Americans in trouble in Iraq. We have a real problem in trying to make our voice heard with regard to Iran.

—Senator Richard Lugar of Indiana, quoted in *The Washington Post*.

Odd Decisions for World War II Victory Ceremonies

By William Pfaff

PARIS — Some strange and wounding decisions have been made in Washington and Bonn about the 50th anniversary memorials to victory in the Second World War. President Bill Clinton will go to Moscow, but not to London. The Poles are not invited to Berlin in May, where, according to Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel, they would be out of place among the "Big Four" allies.

The latter, of course, are Britain, which won the war with the belated assistance of Russia, which began the war as a collaborator of Nazi Germany; and the United States, brought into the war only

Poland has a better claim to be at any European victory observance than does France.

by attack from Japan; and France, which despite the heroism of the not excessively numerous Free French, and resisters inside France, mainly tried to ignore the war, while some French actively cooperated in building Hitler's "new order."

Mr. Clinton is going to Moscow because Russia is his foreign policy priority. He and the man in charge of his Russian policy, Strobe Talbott, have placed too heavy a bet on the fortunes of Boris Yeltsin to offend him (and Russian public opinion) by refusing to attend the Russian

victory celebration in Moscow on May 9.

This choice of policy imposes its logic. Russian conduct in Chechnya notwithstanding — even as the Chechen refugee camps are bombarded. Secretary of State Warren Christopher just had preliminary talks for the May meeting with Russian Foreign Minister Andrei Kozyrev and was reasonably tough with the Russians about their nuclear cooperation with Iran and the Chechen war, insisting with respect to the latter, that "a political settlement must be negotiated."

Mr. Kozyrev was equally firm in response. Has the Russian-American honeymoon ended? "I would say that indeed the honeymoon has come to an end, but sobering period in the wake of the honeymoon did not end in divorce." Mr. Kozyrev said Iran and Chechnya were discussed "without creating artificial linkages between these problems, and some even more complex and complicated issues" — which suggests that Moscow came out of these talks, in Geneva, with cause for satisfaction.

Mr. Clinton has refused the British government's invitation to stop in London for its celebration of the war's end because Britain does not count much in his administration's view of things. One reason for this is the extreme stupidity displayed by John Major and the Conserva-

tive Party in gratuitously interfering in the U.S. presidential campaign of 1992, looking for damaging information about Mr. Clinton and offering the Bush campaign unwanted advice on how the Tories had just won their national election.

The history and the tragedy of the Second World War are shabbily diminished by such partisan considerations. There would have been no victory without Britain. The United States supplied the brawn for victory in Western Europe only when it was given no choice.

The victory on the eastern front, and the conquest of Berlin, were due to Russian heroism and sacrifice, even though it cannot be ignored that Stalin temporized with Hitler, helped Hitler's accession to power by attacking German social democracy through the Comintern and the West European Communist parties, and, comprehensible as his reasoning may have been, signed the infamous nonaggression pact of August 1939 with its secret protocols partitioning East-Central Europe between Germany and Russia. Moscow entered the war against Nazism only when compelled to do so by German invasion.

But Poland and its independence are what the Second World War officially was about. Britain and France guaranteed Poland, after abandoning Czechoslovakia to Hitler, but could not honor their guarantee. The Poles fought alone. Overrun, they were the first of Germany's victims to organize a huge system

of internal resistance, composed of an underground Home Army which continued the struggle and an underground shadow administration, judiciary and educational system linked to the government in exile in London.

Polish forces were reconstituted in France, Britain and Russia and fought on both eastern and western fronts. Polish airmen fought in the Battle of Britain. Polish ships in the Battle of the Atlantic. Polish ground forces in Italy and western Europe. They spent themselves in the ultimately futile conquest of Monte Cassino and the failed Arnhem airborne operation, "Market Garden," meant to cut off the German retreat on the north European front. Their ultimate sacrifice was that postwar Poland was not freed, but was submitted, with the Western allies' acquiescence, to Stalinist domination.

Poland has a better claim to be at any European victory observance than does France, however creditable France's ultimate performance in the war. It deserves to be there for the sake of all the overrun countries which set up exile governments and exile forces. The German government inevitably has an awkward role to play in all of this, but to exclude Poland from the ceremonies in Berlin is unacceptable.

A footnote: The Polish foreign minister, Wladyslaw Bartoszewski, was a prisoner at Auschwitz.

International Herald Tribune.

* Los Angeles Times Syndicate.

Turkey Should Get Out of Iraq and Convert to Conciliation at Home

By William Safire

WASHINGTON — The military-dominated government of Turkey has sent at least 35,000 troops, with tanks and F-16s, into the northern portion of Iraq. That is the "no-fly zone" where the United States and its allies — including Turkey — are protecting Iraqi Kurds from the genocidal fury of Saddam Hussein.

The ostensible purpose of the invasion is to kill some 2,500 Kurdish radicals who have been using terror tactics to whip up support for an end to suppression of millions of Kurds within Turkey.

That is Ankara's cover story, which the Clinton State Department naively accepted as the invasion began. Hot pursuit of terrorists drew no objection from Foggy Bottom. Nor were questions asked about the disproportionate amount of force being used or the total press blackout.

Soon it will dawn on U.S. diplomats that the Turks are not merely punishing separatist

Kurds. If that were the only reason for the attack, Turkey's planes would hit the bases of the terrorist PKK in Syria and the Bekaa in Syria's Lebanon.

Turkey's concealed interest is in the control of oil facilities in Kurdish Iraq. Thirty kilometers of pipeline near Faysakhbur was put beyond Saddam's control.

Ankara's agenda is eager to do business again with Baghdad. The Kurds are an inconvenience. Because Saddam is prohibited from going in and securing his northern oil facilities, Turkey is doing the job for him. Its forces will stay until Saddam's forces can replace them — if the United States and its allies permit it.

What of the Iraqi Kurds, poison-gassed by Saddam, now being bombed by Turkey's Tansu Ciller? At a moment when ethnic unity is vital, and when Kurdish leaders have a chance at last to

establish an autonomous enclave of democracy — those wonderful people, with their distinct language and culture, are fighting among themselves.

One faction is led by Massoud Barzani, soft-spoken son of the late Kurdish Mustafa Barzani, a legendary chieftain revered by Kurds and their growing legion of supporters. Another is led by Jalal Talabani, smoother and more experienced than Massoud, and less willing to accommodate the Turks by negotiating with Saddam.

They both oppose the PKK, a Marxist splinter group that is gaining adherents throughout the five-nation area loosely called Kurdistan, thanks to villagers' fury with Turkey's attack.

Mr. Barzani is angry at Mr. Talabani's recent seizure of the Parliament building in Iraq's Kurdish capital of Erbil; Mr. Talabani charges that Mr. Barzani is not

sharing customs duties collected from smugglers. Their partisans are shooting at each other. A low-level State Department official failed to restore sanity.

Can this mess be straightened out, with killing stopped, autonomy respected, democracy introduced? America cannot fail to try.

A message to Mam Jalal and Kak Massoud from a longtime friend: Nobody will help you unless you demonstrate you are ready for help. Each of you should fax a letter to President Bill Clinton asking him to send a high-level envoy to Iraqi Kurdistan. Commit yourselves to abide by his recommendations about an immediate cease-fire and a governing coalition in Parliament pending supervised elections.

If the Kurdish leaders make their requests, how should President Clinton respond? Not with a multilateral handoff. Certainly the United States should ask the United Nations to condemn the invasion and send in observers, but more diplomatic muscle is needed.

We can hope that Mr. Clinton will appoint a prestigious and tough-minded special envoy to the order of George Shultz, Sol Linowitz or Jeane Kirkpatrick to quickly repair the Kurdish split, which is something I am told the warring factions want.

Stopping the Turkish invasion may involve a trip to Syria (if America talks to the PLO and the IRA, why not the PKK?) and Baar (400,000 Turkish Kurds work in Germany), as well as other European capitals.

Then, in Ankara, the envoy's job would be to persuade Turkey's leaders that conciliation with Kurds and inclusion in Europe is more in the long-term Turkish interest than repression of Kurds at home and an oil deal with Baghdad. Such diplomacy is difficult but doable. If America doesn't lead the way, who will?

The New York Times.

Thailand Needs to Brake Its Growth Now or Risk Hitting the Wall

By Philip Bowring

about Thailand's current account deficit and bank credit quality.

Though the foreigners may have overreacted, the prickly response of Thai authorities suggests that they have forgotten lessons learned in the early 1980s about the dangers of too much foreign borrowing.

Thailand has large foreign exchange reserves and an impressive investment performance, but its \$8 billion current account deficit is financed too heavily by short-term capital. Bangkok stock and money markets have remained under a cloud since the Mexico crisis began.

While Thailand is no Mexico, it increasingly merits the "Belgium in India" tag given to Brazil for its maldistribution of income.

The dry, impoverished northeast of Thailand, home to 30 percent

of the people, has much the same relationship to Bangkok as the dry, impoverished northeast of Brazil has to São Paulo, that country's leading industrial center.

Consider: Thailand is now the largest car market in Southeast Asia, yet 60 percent of the cars sold to residents of Bangkok and its environs, who comprise only about 15 percent of the kingdom's population. So while the capital has become a traffic nightmare, Thais elsewhere make do with buses and motorbikes, and often with bikes and hulafuses.

The gap between the metropolis and the countryside has always been a problem. There are occasional bursts of rural infrastructure spending, as at present. But the fact is that the successful industrialization of the past decade has made the problem worse.

Thailand, with its homogeneous society and less feudal land ownership patterns, should be able to avoid many of the social consequences of income imbalances that have afflicted Brazil. Nor does Thailand face China's problems of rural overpopulation and a huge and largely unregulated force of migrant job-seekers. But it does have its worries. Ever higher crime rates are one. A trend away from today's open society and capitalist economy is another.

Shoko Asahara, the sinister-looking leader of the Japanese sect, emphasizes science in his appeals. The choice of chemical warfare seems to reflect this, but corresponds say it also enables him to recruit among his followers well-educated youth from well-endowed families who are looking for an ardent faith.

It is noticeable in universities throughout the Arab world that students in the science faculties, including medicine and engineering, are much more likely to be attracted to fundamentalist groups than students in the humanities. But fear remains, all kinds of fears, old and new.

It is sustained by daily news, usually disasters, to remind us that people can be dangerous, viruses can be dangerous, machines can be dangerous, weather can be dangerous, and the solid earth itself can tremble and destroy. Where is safety and who can assure protection?

The approach of science itself has changed. While researchers continue to probe in every direction, from the vastness of the universe to the invisible minuteness of the nuclear particle, they have a different concept of how it all works, some physicists say.

They point out that Newtonian physics, which dominated scientific thought, was essentially mechanical, seeking knowledge

by Flora Lewis

by pulling things apart into their component parts to see how they work. Modern physics is holistic, or in sense ecological, seeking everything as interrelated, seeking knowledge on all levels. It is an approach which restores the idea of unity in all, and therefore can encourage the idea of divinity.

We know a lot more about nature than people did a few thousand years ago, when the only choice seemed to be to appease and submit to the many gods believed to inspire and rule it.

The tremendous advance in the sciences provoked the 19th century optimism that steady progress to an assuredly better life was available, even inevitable, and so some said that God was dead and science would replace divinity. But fear remains, all kinds of fears, old and new.

It is sustained by daily news,

such

OPINION/LETTERS

Changing Climate: A Plague Upon Us

By Paul R. Epstein and Ross Gelbspan

CAMBRIDGE, Massachusetts — Natural climate change has been with us for eons, but accumulating evidence suggests that man-made greenhouse gases are now beginning to destabilize global climate patterns, triggering extreme weather events and causing the migration of various life forms. One result is the spread of some diseases and the re-emergence of others.

Consider India. For much of last summer, temperatures had soared from their normal 26 to 32 centigrade (80 to 90 degrees Fahrenheit) and hovered around 52 centigrade. By fall, animal carcasses littered the plains; fleas multiplied in grain caches.

Above the baking landscape, rippling columns of air ascended, leaving low-pressure systems that lured in moisture-laden ocean air. Three-month monsoons bequeathed breeding sites for malaria, dengue fever and pneumonic plague. By the time the epidemics ran their course, as many as 4,000 Indians had died.

In the United States, long-range forecasts by the Climate Analysis Center of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration show increased potential for conditions conducive to vector-borne disease. This summer may be ripe for the expansion of dengue fever in the American Southeast and the re-emergence of Eastern equine encephalitis in the Northeast.

The world has a chance to confront this new menace at the international climate convention under way in Berlin. It was convened to refine and implement the global climate treaty signed in Rio de Janeiro in 1992. The conference has an opportunity to reduce significantly the world's output of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases and thereby help control not only climate change but the resulting spread of disease.

The critical role of global climate change in the worldwide movement of many disease-carriers has received little attention. The process is simple. Weeds, rodents, insects, bacteria and viruses — known as R-strategists — rapidly reproduce and colonize disturbed environments. Larger, slower developing K-strategists such as predatory birds and animals are superior competitors under stable conditions, but they submit to the opportunists when their habitat is fragmented, polluted or altered by rapid climatic change.

Fossil records — "paleothermometers" — demonstrate that during warm epochs insects have proliferated and extended their range more swiftly than have plants. One indication of the current spread of climate-related disease can be seen in the migration of aedes aegypti mosquitoes, which carry dengue and yellow fever. Historically restricted by temperature to 1,000 meters (3,300 feet) in altitude, the mosquitoes now have been reported above 1,350 meters in Costa Rica and at 2,200 meters in Colombia. Malaria carriers are appearing at higher elevations in Central Africa.

These changes parallel the movement of plants to higher altitudes on three continents and the northward shift of California coastal marine species.

The movement of insects, rodents, microorganisms and weeds affects agriculture as well as humans. But predictions of favorable crop yields in North America under warming scenarios take no account of plant pests and pathogens. Chemical control measures offer no comfort. The long-term use of pesticides to destroy proliferating pests cultivates genetic resistance and kills the fish, birds, lacewings and ladybugs that naturally regulate those populations.

Extreme weather conditions affect marine, plant and human health by affording opportunistic species fresh terrain and generating new bursts of activity. The drying up of ponds concentrates microorganisms, while floods contaminate clean water. Droughts encourage locusts and kills the fish, birds, lacewings and ladybugs that naturally regulate those populations.

The phenomenon called El Niño, the periodic eastward displacement of the Pacific's great warm water pool, is the most powerful known determinant of global weather patterns. Warm and cold El Niño events are associated with the deaths of large numbers of sea mammals; El Niño warm years are associated with upsurges of malaria, cholera in Bangladesh, hepatitis, diarrhea and dysentery in South America and encephalitis in Massachusetts.

We have entered the fifth consecutive year of anomalous conditions in the Pacific. Since 1977, no El Niño event had persisted beyond three years. Recent studies reveal enormous amounts of heat accumulating in the North Atlantic, Indian and Southwest Pacific depths. And — of vital concern — warm pools are collecting under polar ice sheets.

Warm water readily evaporates, increasing the atmospher-

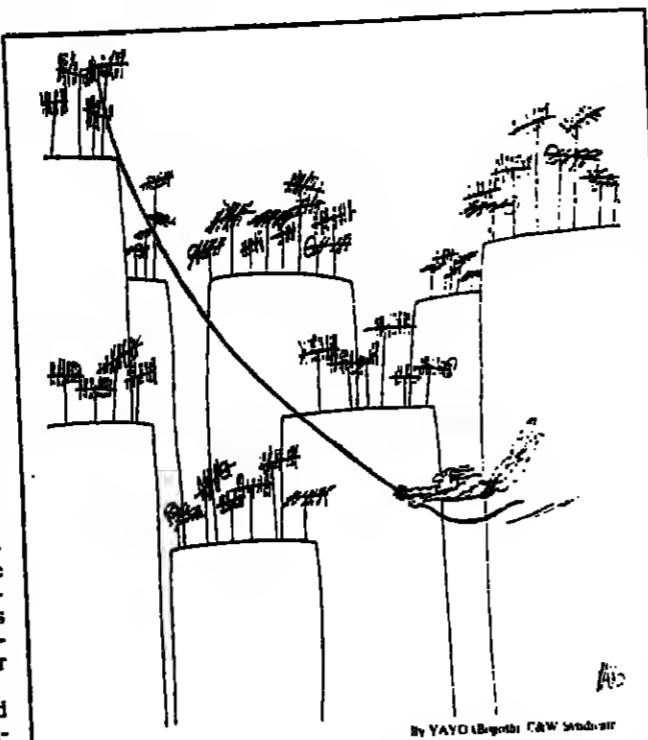
ic cycling of water. Warmer seas may further alter precipitation patterns affecting distribution of insects as well as marine life.

Harmful algal "blooms" are appearing with increasing frequency and variety. Last summer, algal blooms covered one-third of a heated Baltic Sea. Since 1991 a "red tide" has occurred annually in the Chilean Straits of Magellan.

Any effort to deal with climate instability must recognize its environmental and ecological impact, for aesthetic reasons but also to protect complex systems of biological controls over pests and pathogens.

The mounting physical and biological indications of climate change suggest that greenhouse gas buildup from the burning of fossil fuel (6 billion tons, or 1 ton per person, of carbon emitted annually) may have begun to affect planet-wide systems. And the progression may not be a straight line. Prolonged periods of climate "regimes" can change abruptly. Ice-core samples from Greenland indicate that the jump from the last Ice Age to the present hospitable "Holocene" state took not centuries, as once believed, but three to seven years.

Thus public perception must jump from debating "global warming" to understanding climate change, variability and stability. Will we read the signs of global change and react before the resilience of natural systems is exceeded? Or must we wait, as have earlier societies



By YANNIS LIGRIVIOTIS, CAVU STUDIO/IR

stricken by epidemics, to be transformed by them?

The World Health Organization, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, need supplemental capacity to detect and respond to emerging diseases.

The global redistribution of infectious diseases may prove to be only one of the "surprise" areas of climate change. A fully integrated ecological risk assessment that included the spiraling losses in well-being, agriculture, development, tourism and insurance would suggest that the societal costs of not shifting from business as usual are far greater than we imagine.

This expanding potential disaster elevates the urgency for curbing consumption of coal, oil and timber — to slow the rate of

climate change and allow time for life forms to adjust.

Protection of global health rests upon the efficient use of all resources. Ultimately our well-being depends upon our skill in duplicating the exquisite economy of photosynthesis by harnessing the sun to generate our energy needs.

Unfortunately, the outlook for substantial achievement at the Berlin conference does not inspire optimism. Divisions between the industrialized countries and the developing world threaten any real progress. So do ancillary disputes between the world's oil-producing states, which oppose any meaningful emissions limits, and its smaller island nations, which have a special vulnerability to unstable climate and are push-

ing for a 20 percent reduction in emissions by the year 2005.

Many European countries are pushing for hard targets and timetables by which to reduce climate-altering emissions, while the U.S. delegation is willing to subject any such goals to prolonged negotiations before they are ratified.

Unfortunately, the threat is all too real, and time in which to respond is short.

Dr. Epstein is a physician with the New Disease Group at the Harvard School of Public Health and the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Mr. Gelbspan has reported on environmental affairs for 24 years, most recently for *The Boston Globe*. They contributed this comment to *The Washington Post*.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

He Should Stay Home

Regarding "Russian Troops Open Major Drive Against Chechen Stronghold" (March 22):

The casualty figure to date in Chechnya, according to this report, is about 25,000 civilians dead, many of them ethnic Russians. President Boris Yeltsin is on record as complaining that the Balts, the Ukrainians and the Georgians discriminate against ethnic Russians living in those countries. Yet he stands by the order that is killing ethnic Russians — all for the "greater good" of keeping Chechnya in the Russian Federation.

Still, America's too well-intentioned, too fair-minded president will go to Russia. He will celebrate the end of one war when another one is being waged under his nose in the senseless exercise of keeping together an empire that is straining at its seams.

OKSANA P. STRUK,
Sarcelles, France.

Dresden and Beyond

Had there been a Dresden-type series of raids on Germany during World War I, perhaps there would not have been a World War II. Perhaps the Germans would not have followed Hitler so enthusiastically all the way to war, in full confidence

Letters intended for publication should be addressed "Letters to the Editor" and contain the writer's signature, name and full address. Letters should be brief and are subject to editing. We cannot be responsible for the return of unsolicited manuscripts.

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THE WORLD'S DAILY NEWSPAPER

They Rose From an Okinawa Graveyard

By Denis Warner

MEMLBOURNE — Just after 5:30 A.M. on April 1, 1945, American troops began to land on Okinawa, south of the Japanese home island of Kyushu. It was Easter Sunday and, as the troops reminded themselves, also April Fools' Day.

Conditions were deceptively kind. The weather was cool and the sea calm as the first amphibious tractors and other landing

disappeared. Not because they were on their way home: They were right above us.

Minutes later, a Zero fighter with a 500-pound (225-kilogram) bomb in its sweep of the carrier, its guns blazing, the red circles painted under its wings seemingly as big as the sun. It sprayed the superstructure of the ship. A bullet hit a seaman at the rail of the flight deck. He was steady for a moment, then fell dead beside me.

For the Japanese, Okinawa's defense was crucial. On it rested their slender hopes of averting either invasion of the homeland or unconditional surrender.

Desperate needs caused desperate tactics. To counter earl

ier invasions of islands they held away from us toward a second British carrier, the Indefatigable. At the end of a suicide dive, his plane hit the base of the superstructure. The vessel stopped and drifted astern, hidden by a heavy cloud of smoke that trailed behind her in a black steamer for a mile or more.

Before the kamikazes had

finished with us, other planes

had crashed onto the battleship King George V and another British carrier, the Illustrious.

To the north, as American

troops began to cross the land

beaches on Okinawa,

swarms of kamikaze planes at

tacked, hitting nine vessels in

the Allied armada of 1,475 war

ships, transports, ammunition

carriers and freighters assem

bled for the invasion. It was just

a tactic of things to come.

A prefecture of Japan, Okinawa Island had a civilian popula

tion of almost half a million,

mostly farmers who lived in

thatched cottages and grew sug

ar cane, sweet potatoes and oth

er vegetables.

With Iwo Jima now firmly in

American hands, the United

States needed Okinawa as an

unsinkable aircraft carrier. It

was relatively small,

Yet the results were not near

ly as impressive as the Japanese

thought. Pillars of smoke rising

from an apparently crippled

ship seemed from a distance to

mark its certain destruction.

But the ratio of losses to strikes

was relatively small.

This was just as well for the

American troops ashore. They

discovered that although the ter

rain had been pulverized by U.S.

shells and bombs, the Japanese

defenders were well equipped

and determined to fight.

For days before U.S. forces

landed, Okinawa had been bom

barded from sea and air. Thir

teen battleships, nine cruisers

and planes from no fewer than

40 aircraft carriers seemed to

have blown the island to bits.

Observation planes could detect

no sign of life. Okinawa, it ap

peared, had become a graveyard.

Soon it was to be. But on that

Sunday, almost all the 80,000

troops of the Japanese 32d Army

— many more than Allied intel

ligence had reported — were

very much alive. Under Lieut

ant General Mitsuru Ushijima,

one of Japan's more impres

sive commanders, they had dis

appeared into vast network of

caves and underground tunnels

and bunkers, proof against all

the explosives the Americans

had fired and dropped.

Japanese strong points were

mutually supporting and built

into both the forward and re

verse slopes of the hills at the

northern and southern ends of

the island.

The Americans were now

equipped with flame-throwing

tanks, which they used to burn

out the Japanese. Even so, by

the end of the fighting on Okinawa, more than 7,000 U.S. sol

diers and marines had been

killed and there were nearly

60,000 other casualties.

Had the Americans gone

ahead with the invasion of Kyu

shu, they would have faced thou

sands

Searching for Enlightenment Among Vatican's Gift Shops

There's no discouragement
Shall make him once return
His first avowed intent
To be a Pilgrim.

—John Bunyan

By Kate Singleton

ROME — "Slept well did you?" "Oh yes, but I was awake at 6, even earlier." Bright voices, keen expectations, a perky readiness for whatever the momentous day may bring.

A lot of queuing, for a start. For although it's still only 8:30 in the morning, the hordes dutifully awaiting their turn for enlightenment in the Vatican Museums and grace in the Sistine Chapel fill the sidewalk hugging the Vatican palaces for as far back as the eye can see. No one dreams of darting in through the unumbered Exit door beside the Entrance. An unthinkable breach of ritual.

Beyond the hallowed portals is a vast double spiral staircase. Ascension in this

case is a prelude to possible redemption (there are elevators for the lame and weary: *ascensori* in Italian). At the top there is more queuing, for the sweet pain of spending 13,000 lire (about \$7.50) for an entrance ticket, and a further 6,000 for a tour inclusive of the Sistine Chapel, 6,000 for the Raphael Rooms, 4,000 for the Sistine Chapel alone.

Choose your itinerary according to your degree of artistic devotion: 1½ to 4 hour journeys. Stick to the map, tune in to the key: A = purple, B = beige, C = green, D = yellow. Spiritual uplift is in direct ratio to physical fatigue. Take heart. For even before you have left the assembly hall, there is a gift shop to succor and restore you.

Quick think! Through the Galleria dei Candelabri flanked by ancient statues worn expressionless by the sight of so much varied humanity. A patina of unlove covers the deities and heroes of bygone ages with graysness. No captions to restore their dignity, no more than a shrug from the man in uniform standing at the end.

Move on, move on! Past frescoed maps devoid of explanations. Past vases re-

sounding in their emptiness. Past giant tapestries that absorb the clunk and squeak of footsteps on marble floors but not the marchers, who are mostly reminiscing about yesterday's shopping.

Shopping: The one true vocation of the current age. Never were market stalls more apt and timely. For there in the gallery ahead are stands offering souvenirs for all purposes: posters, postcards, books, catalogues, audio-kits that replace the need for written captions, or better still, videos that allow bemused visitors to see what they've seen once they get home. Religious relics are of course no longer readily available. But there are commemorative medals on sale for 30,000 lire each to remind you in future years of your Vatican experience.

Revived and heartened, the crowds head on in the direction of the Raphael Rooms and the Sistine Chapel. The excitement increases as the arrows multiply. Frescoes! Imploring eyes try to discern beauty and fulfillment in the gaudy post-everything pathos of the Madonnas and Saints in the Sobieski Room. Thus transfixed, in the following rooms visitors fail

to notice the beauty of the ancient Roman mosaic marble floors to whose slow destruction they are probably contributing. Not that they would find out anything about them if they did happen to glance downward in a moment of earthly humility and reflection: No explanations but plenty of shrugs and head-shaking from the blue-jacketed personnel for those who are naive enough to consult them.

The hubbub of chatter continues. As Chaucer knew, pilgrims are partial to a tale or two on their way to redemption. Thus they largely concentrate on their own pre-occupations as they surge through the Sala di Costantino. Why should they worry about Raphael's astounding achievement if no effort whatsoever has been made to explain what is depicted on the four walls and the ceiling and by this time they're not sure if it's all by Raphael anyway?

A closed door on the far side of the innermost Raphael Room was evidently not worth pinning up a notice there or at the museum entrance. Due to restoration the Cappella Niccolina is closed, thus hid-

ing the superbly balanced and contemplative frescoes by Fra Angelico from view.

However, in the Room of the Signature there is a notable exception to the do-it-all-yourself seek-and-shall-find method promoted by the Vatican. For there the curtains entirely covering one wall is a board proclaiming that restoration is being financed by Mrs. Henry Galsman of the Patron of the Arts in the Vatican Museums. Granted, it doesn't say what is being restored or who painted it or when.

Before setting out on the last leg of their cultural pilgrimage the weary will find great solace in the museum shop that still separates them from their ultimate destination. For here they will not only be offered the usual items but also T-shirts embellished with Michelangelo figures, address books, note pads, jewelry boxes, photo frames and diaries featuring Raphael-esque motifs (many of the paintings thus reproduced do not belong to the Vatican collections).

Once out of the Fire in the Borgo Room, the Route to the Sistine Chapel

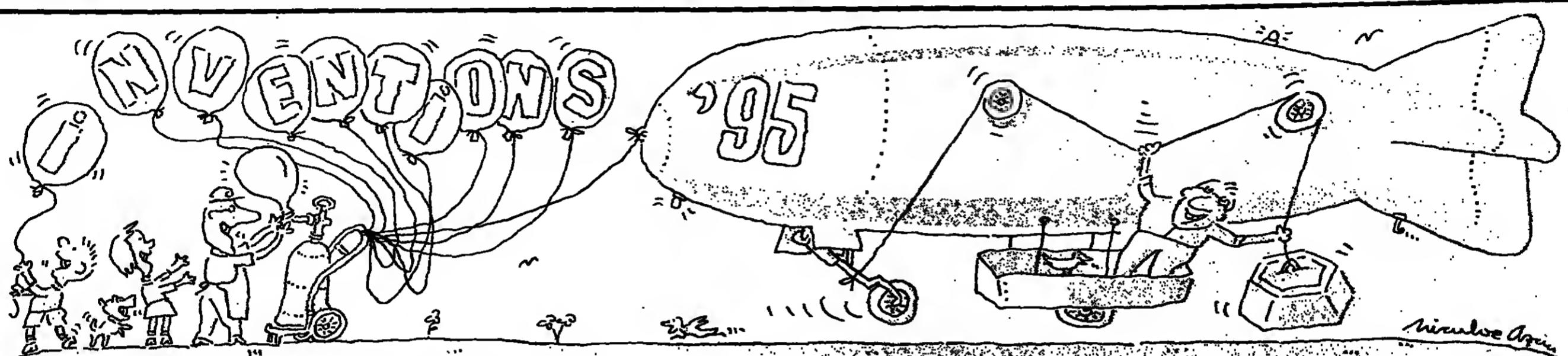
divides. Those who opt for the wrong branch will find themselves traversing a subterranean Slough of Despond in the shape of the airless and cheerless rooms dedicated to a collection of Modern Art that exudes an aura of neglect.

Perseverance will be rewarded when once-divided paths reunite before the supreme experience. The tension mounts. Eager voices expressing hopes and expectations fill any vacant space in the crowded corridor.

Ding-dong, ding-dong: "Visitors are invited to put away their cameras and stop talking, they are about to stand in the Sistine Chapel . . ."

Step forward, all you art pilgrims step forward. Enlightenment is a gift, not a quest. To be is more important than to see. This is visiting with blind faith: No questions (but if you've forgotten anything there's another duty-free, oops sorry, gift shop precinct near the museum exit).

Kate Singleton lives in Italy and writes frequently on cultural affairs.



Everything You Might Never Need at Inventors' Exhibition

By Robert L. Kroon
International Herald Tribune

GENEVA — More than 600 inventors, tinkerers and gad-geteers from 41 countries will seek outlets for everything from Russian caviar to quake-proof skyscrapers, at the annual International Exhibition of Inventions, which runs from March 31 to April 9 at the Palexpo hall.

Spain weighs in with a retractable landing gear for dirigibles. Hungary introduces an aluminum church bell, a

Swiss clock without hands displays the time in colors and a Belgian inventor, inevitably, comes up with a fatless frying pan for pommes frites.

Late risers may still catch the computer train thanks to French breakfast machine that serves coffee, squeezes juice, prepares cereal and even boils a three-minute egg. There's a puncture-proof bicycle tire from Tunisia, and chain-smoking Serb warriors can curb their nicotine intake with a new dosage filter from Belgrade.

There are plenty of goodies in the health sector. A "magnetic sock" from South Korea revives tired feet and a

Dutch product eliminates malodorous sweat, despite Edison's dictum that inventing requires more perspiration than inspiration. For senior citizens there is new hope in a life-extending elixir from China. Deng Xiaoping may be a reference.

As the mother of all inventions, the Salon International des Inventions, now in its 23rd year, is the biggest and, according to its president, Jean-Luc Vincent, "the most serious" in the world.

Vincent says most of the 100,000 expected visitors are manufacturers and distributors looking for new ideas. fn

1994, 45 percent of the inventions led to contracts and this year's projection is for \$35 million in commercial deals. To ward off copycats, the exhibition is co-sponsored by the World Intellectual Property Organization, the United Nations' main deterrent against intellectual piracy.

The WIPO, along with the city of Geneva, awards the most original ideas with prizes and medals. This year, Switzerland leads the pack with 15 percent of all exhibitors, followed by Germany, France, Hungary, Romania and the Netherlands. The United States is a notable absentee, "because American in-

ventors, and there are a few, prefer to concentrate on their home market," says the exhibition's spokesman Etienne Nusse. "Also, the sky-high Swiss franc is no help this year."

That did not deter would-be Edisons and Marconis from countries like Macedonia and Senegal from traveling to Geneva, in the hope of finding hard-currency foster parents for their brainchildren.

Vincent says that "practical" innovations score best. Having sold all their inventions last year, Dutch tinkerers are back in strength with 25 novelties, rang-

ing from a "Magnaclip" combination of staple and paperclip to a self-raising toilet seat to lighted handrails for ferries so passengers can find their way to lifeboat stations in case of trouble.

The world may not be waiting for a zeppelin landing gear, but there may be takers for a pest-resistant, fast-growing Romanian peanut; a self-cleaning, odorless Swedish cat box; a French hovercraft for inland waterways; perfume-squirting Swiss jewelry and a German anchoring device for rattling dentures.

Not to mention a Croatian invention that promises to turn stutters into articulate orators.

THE MOVIE GUIDE

Losing Isaiah

Directed by Stephen Gyllenhaal. United States.

This drama about interracial adoption is serious and affecting, thanks in large part to Jessica Lange and Halle Berry, who breathe life into their debating positions. The first side to this story is that of Margaret Lewin, a white social worker who adopts an abandoned black baby. Although Margaret has a seemingly happy family — she doesn't need this new commitment, but she craves it anyway. Isaiah (Marc John Jefferies) grows up to be a cute, rambunctious tot. Meanwhile, the mother,

Khaila Richards (Berry), rises above her shame to get back on her feet. Where she winds up, of course, is in the courtroom. Lange brings such believable anguish to this part of the story that "Losing Isaiah" almost survives its biggest problem, the impossibility of a viable ending to this story.

(By Janet Maslin, NYT)

Farewell, Japan

Directed by Yukihiko Tsutsumi. Japan.

When the Japanese government is slow to help the survivors of a typhoon-struck island, they decide to become independent. The

community hall becomes the Parliament House, an Immigration Station is built on the bridge and visas are required. Japan's prime minister ignores the rebels but quickly sends in the Self-Defense Forces when it seems that North Korea might recognize this new country. Sounds like a good satirical film, just the thing Japanese cinema most needs. One can imagine what the young Kinoshita could have done with this, or Kōji Ichikawa. Tsutsumi is not, however, of this class. He seems to exert no control: everyone overacts in the great tradition of TV comedy; there is no tempo, one scene follows another at a leaden pace, and the whole picture slowly sinks past mediocrity and into the awful depths. If the producers were going to rip off "Passport to Pimlico" they

ought to have asked someone over from Ealing Studios. (Donald Richie, IHT)

Dolores Claiborne
Directed by Taylor Hackford. United States.
"Dolores Claiborne" is another Stephen King-based

film that deserves a disclaimer: it is no stereotypical Stephen King tale. The main attraction is just Dolores (Kathy Bates), a tough-talking Maine housekeeper suspected of killing her employer. This becomes an occasion for Dolores to ex-

amine her past for the benefit of a police investigator (Christopher Plummer), and to get reacquainted with her estranged daughter, Selena (Jennifer Jason Leigh), a brittle New York journalist who has avoided home ever since her mother was ac-

cused of murdering her father. The story is a litany of Dolores's complaints, most of them against her husband, Joe St. George (David Strathairn). Another part of "Dolores Claiborne" is about Vera Donovan (Judy Parfitt), who is alternately the commanding owner of the waterfront house where Dolores works and a pitiful invalid dependant on Dolores to take care of her. It is Vera who sounds the film's blunt credo: "Sometimes being a bitch is all a woman has to hold on to," which is as close as "Dolores Claiborne" comes to insight.

(Janet Maslin, NYT)

Les Rendez-Vous de Paris

Directed by Eric Rohmer. France.

Eric Rohmer has spent 30 years embroidering on stories in which boy meets girl and talks her head off. Age has not dulled his sharp pen — the talk is as good as ever. This new comedy is about rendezvous made and missed with choreographed precision; this could only be

Paris — filmed from the Luxembourg Gardens to Montmartre — and the characters could only be French. We enter disorderly apartments, amble through markets and parks, and eavesdrop on these awkward precious people. They are law students, professors from the provinces, charming, baffling and irritating. In the first story, Esther suspects her boyfriend Horace of seeing another girl and traps him with her; in the second, lovers meet in parks all over town for a tantalizing courtship that is thwarted; in the last, a painter drops one girl to pick up another at the Picasso Museum, but he makes the wrong choice. Each encounter, each site is set to show off a postcard triviality, but also to hint at dramatic potential — love is cruel and characters are not named Horace and Esther for nothing. Yet there is something sterile about the exercise, piroettes that fall too often in the same spot and make you nostalgic for the airy Rohmer of earlier films. (Joan Dupont, IHT)

HIS & HIS
■ Onward and upward with the arts: A show at the Serpentine Gallery in London featuring 12 "artists" lets visitors touch the exhibits and even take them away (old clothes) or buy them (chocolate bars). "Everything is either touchable, takeable, testable or buyable. Everything other gallery exhibitions are not," a spokeswoman told Reuters.

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Herald Tribune</h2

LEISURE

THE ARTS GUIDE

AUSTRIA

Vienna
Wiener Staatsoper, tel: (1) 513-1-513. "Tristan und Isolde." Directed by August Everding, conducted by Zubin Mehta, with Heidi Suckla, Matthias Hölzl and Gabriele Schnaut. April 9, 13 and 16.

BELGIUM

Liège
Théâtre Royal, tel: (41) 23-67-65. Puccini's "Tosca." Directed by Nicolas Joël, conducted by Giuliano Cetola, with Frances Gissberg, Graciela Encina and Jean Van Dam. April 16, 18, 20 and 22.

BRITAIN

Edinburgh
National Gallery of Scotland, tel: (41) 332-2266, open daily. To May 7. "German Printmaking in the Age of Goethe." Printmaking was once an effective means of expressing the lyricism of nature and antiquity which characterized German thought in the time of Goethe. The exhibition features 80 etchings and lithographs from Central Europe and includes works by Caspar David Friedrich and Karl Schinkel.

London
British Art Gallery, tel: (71) 638-4141, open daily. Continuing/To May 7. "Impressionism in Britain." The first major exhibition to examine fully the development of the Impressionist movement in Britain at the turn of the century. More than 200 works by 100 artists, including Charles Conder, Degas, Monet, Pissarro, Sickert, Sisley, Stokes and Whistler. The National Gallery, tel: (71) 838-3321, open daily. To April 11. "Poussin Prints." Pictures by or connected with Poussin which raise problems of attribution or dating. Royal Academy of Arts, tel: (71) 498-5515, open daily. Continuing/To April 9: "Nicolás Poussin," and to May 21: "Ovidion Redon: Prince of Dreams."

CANADA

Toronto
Art Gallery of Ontario, tel: (416) 979-6548, closed Mondays and Tuesdays. To April 17. "Ferdinand Hodler: Views and Visions." More than 50 figurative paintings by the Swiss Symbolist artist, who belonged to the same generation of Postimpressionist painters as van Gogh, Gauguin and Toulouse-Lautrec. Features portraits, genre scenes, landscapes and figurative paintings.

FRANCE

Aix-en-Provence
Musée d'Art Réattu, tel: 69 52 41-20, open daily. To June 16. "Marino Marini: Sculptures et Dessins." More than 100 drawings and sculptures created between



Collège de France professor Jean Irigoin by Martine Franck, in a photography exhibition in Paris.

1929 and 1967 by the Italian sculptor. Horses and riders are the main theme of his painted sculptures. The exhibition will travel to London.

Giverny
Musée d'Art Américain, tel: 32-51-94-65, closed Mondays. April 10 to Oct. 31: "Regard sur Winslow Homer." A small selection of paintings by the 19th-century artist, whose paintings capture the spirit of his country and its time.

ITALY

Modena
Teatro Comunale, tel: (59) 64-92-63. "Carmen." Directed by Federico Tiezzi, conducted by Garcia Navarro, with Elena Zaremba, Sergei Lani, Maria Elena. April 11 and 13.

JAPAN

Tokyo
Hanshin Museum, tel: (3) 34-45-06-51, open daily. To June 11: "Warning!" 45 works by 20 artists including Gilbert and George, Joseph Beuys, Tetsuo Kudo and Peter Krasen address political, environmental and other concerns of men in our times.

The works serve as a warning for the 21st century.

Suntory Museum of Art, tel: (3) 3740-1073, closed Mondays. To April 9: "Posed of Women." More than 100 20th-century posters documenting changes in the depiction of women in Japan and the West.

NETHERLANDS

Amsterdam
Van Gogh Museum, tel: (0) 20-570-5200, open daily. To June 25:

closed Mondays. To April 23: "Munch und Deutschtum." Works by Edward Munch, including the "Leendert series, portraits and street scenes as well as 40 works by Symbolist painters such as Bocklin, and Klinger, and Expressionist artists such as Kirchner, Schmidt-Rottluff and Heckel.

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INTERNATIONAL

Algerian Islamist Appeals for Peace**In Open Letter, Militant Chief Denounces Abuses by All Sides**By Yousef M. Ibrahim
New York Times Service

PARIS — A leading figure of the armed Islamic movement fighting to overthrow Algeria's government has appealed to the country's military leadership for the first time for a peaceful solution of the civil strife that has taken nearly 40,000 lives there in the last three years.

The call for a negotiated end to the war between fundamentalists and the secular establishment came from Madani Merzak, who heads the Islamic Salvation Army, the armed wing of the largest political opposition party in Algeria, the Islamic Salvation Front.

The declassification also denounced "abuses" by the army fighting to eradicate fundamentalists, as well as by militant Islamist groups themselves, some of which have adopted a gruesome policy of assassinating women, teachers, intellectuals and journalists in an attempt to silence the country's secularists.

The 21-page statement was issued in the form of an open letter addressed to President Liamine Zeroual and a wide segment of Algerian decision-makers, including jailed fundamentalist leaders, senior commanders of the army, and the Algerian people. It began to circulate widely Thursday.

"Each day that passes complicates the crisis," Mr. Merzak said. "Each fallen martyr deepens the wounds. And each citizen abused cultivates in himself the will to defy and to fight humiliation." He signed the document as the "National Emir," or leader in Islamist terminology, of both the political party and the Islamic Salvation Army fighting in its name.

The appeal has received a mixed reception from former and current officials of the Algerian government, who noted privately Thursday that it came on the heel of

an aggressive campaign by the army in the past six weeks that is taking a rising toll among militants. A battle now in its 11th day in western Algeria is reliably reported to have resulted in the killing of at least 600 fundamentalist fighters and perhaps as many as 1,000.

Officials close to Algerian Army intelligence were said to believe that the appeal was essentially aimed at reducing the military pressure, which has grown significantly since January.

Other officials argued that fundamentalist factions were too divided to deliver a peace strategy, noting that Mr. Merzak cannot pledge a ceasefire on behalf of a major faction battling the government, the Armed Islamic Group, which at this point appears to be doing much of the fighting.

Indeed, Mr. Merzak appeared to distance his movement from the murderous actions of the Armed Islamic Group, known by its French acronym, the GIA. The group has widened its assaults beyond the army to target a broad segment of the civilian establishment.

Ranked as the most violent of the Algerian factions, the Armed Islamic Group has taken responsibility for acts of terror, including the bombing of about 500 schools, the killing of scores of unveiled women and many journalists, writers and intellectuals who have openly opposed fundamentalism. It has also carried on a campaign to murder foreigners.

"We deeply suffer from the abuses carried out by this or that side that harm people and those committed by infiltrated ignorants," Mr. Merzak said.

"We will act, God willing, to confront these abuses whatever side is committing them," he said.

A senior Algerian official close to security services, who asked not to be identified, said: "Frankly, I don't think Merzak is all that powerful. Generally speaking, the GIA is leading the offensive of the Islam-

ists and doing most of the damage. Merzak may be trying to save a seat in any potential negotiations for the political leadership of the Islamists, which is in jail and far from active."

Another former Algerian cabinet member who is in close touch with the authorities said the Islamists' move "may be significant." But he added that "we have to wait for the cascade of reactions among the Islamists before judging the importance of the message."

"Merzak may be speaking for a small group or flying a test balloon, the former official said. "He may also be cutting a larger profile for himself."

Certainly, Mr. Merzak was reflecting the lack of leadership at the top of the Islamic movement. In remarks addressed to the two top leaders of the movement, Abassi Madani, 65, and Ali Belhaj, who is in his mid-30s, Mr. Merzak said it was suffering from divisions because of lack of guidance at the top about the exact purpose of the armed effort.

The two men and other top leaders of the Islamist movement, who have been under arrest, in the underground or in exile since 1992, are known to have differed over the use of violence. In 1992, the government dissolved their party and canceled national elections they nearly won.

■ Bonn Holds 2 Algerians

Germany's federal prosecutor has arrested two Algerians suspected of smuggling weapons to Islamic fundamentalists in Algeria, the prosecutor's office in Bonn said Thursday. Reuters reported.

The arrests followed raids Tuesday on an Algerian ring in which weapons, ammunition and explosives were seized, as well as a large amount of money, the office said.

All C., 33, and Mahmoud L., 24, were accused of belonging to a criminal organization smuggling weapons to Algeria from Germany and other European countries.



Agence France-Presse

Crew members of the trawler Puento Pereira 4 leaving Vigo, Spain, on Thursday to replace the Estai, which had been seized by Canada in fishing grounds off Newfoundland.

EU and Canada Cite Progress**Union Sidesteps Demand for Sanctions in Fishing Rift**By Tom Buerkle
International Herald Tribune

BRUSSELS — The European Union and Canada said Thursday that they had made progress in resolving their fishing dispute, enabling the Union to fend off new Spanish demands for trade sanctions over the interception of two of its trawlers off the coast of Newfoundland.

However, the Union also issued a fresh warning to Canada not to take new action on the high seas, reflecting Europe's uncertainty that Ottawa is politically prepared to cut a deal after conducting a media campaign against what it alleges is Spanish overfishing.

"Any repetition of unilateral action by Canada would be bound to have consequences for the relations between the European Union and Canada likely to extend beyond fisheries," the European Commission said in a letter to the Canadian Foreign Ministry.

That warning was partly blunted by Prime Minister John Major of Britain, who told Parliament on Thursday that his country would block any EU move to impose sanctions against Canada. Mr. Major said Canada was "entirely right" in acting to preserve fish stocks, although he cautioned Ottawa against any moves that might "undermine her own good case."

"Good progress is being made and I see no reason why an accommodation can't be struck," he said.

EU officials criticized Britain for undermining EU solidarity, but they acknowledged that other members, including France and Germany, were

striving to avoid sanctions and seek a negotiated settlement. Indeed, the permanent representatives of the 15 EU member states rejected Spain's request to draw up a list of possible retaliatory sanctions.

EU and Canadian officials held two rounds of talks Thursday in Brussels, while Canada's external affairs minister, Andre Ouellet, met in Paris with Foreign Minister Alain Juppé of France.

Marco Zatterin, a spokesman for the EU fisheries commission, Emma Bonino, said progress had been made in the three areas targeted by the Europeans: the suspension of a Canadian law permitting seizures outside the country's 200-mile (325-kilometer) coastal limit, a bigger quota for EU fishermen and stricter multilateral inspections to protect against overfishing.

Officials said the two sides were seeking to increase inspections of fishing vessels at sea and in port, as well as using satellites to monitor the fishing areas.

Any quota agreement would very likely grant roughly 40 percent of the allowable halibut catch each to Canada and the Union. A February decision to give the Europeans just 12 percent of the catch set off the current dispute, which included Canada's seizure of a Spanish vessel in international waters.

In its letter to Ottawa, the commission attacked the net-cutting as an "illegal and unacceptable act" that was undermining international efforts to save fish stocks.

The letter was sent by the commission after Britain blocked an attempt to send the letter on behalf of each of the Union's 15 member states.

Rwandans In Burundi Are Fleeing En Masse

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

BUJUMBURA, Burundi — Up to 40,000 Rwandan Hutus refugees living in camps in Burundi took to the road Thursday seeking refuge in Tanzania because of fears of ethnic unrest, aid groups said.

The medical aid organization Doctors Without Borders said all the Rwandan refugees housed in the Magara camp, in northern Ngosi Province, left in the morning. The camp accommodated about 40,000 Rwandan Hutus.

The UN High Commissioner for Refugees estimated the number of people fleeing Ngosi Province at 20,000 but said many more were likely to follow.

The exodus was in addition to tens of thousands of Burundians who have fled the central African country to Zaire because of ethnic tension.

Hundreds of people have been killed in Burundi in the past few weeks in clashes that have fueled fears of a scenario similar to Rwanda, where up to one million people were massacred last year.

Aid officials said the flight of the Rwandan refugees from Burundi was probably also linked to the upcoming first anniversary of the death of the presidents of both countries in a plane crash.

That incident on April 6 triggered the Rwandan bloodbath, in which Hutu extremists are blamed for killing from 500,000 to 1 million people, mainly Tutsi and moderate Hutus.

The two countries share the same ethnic makeup, a Tutsi minority and Hutu majority.

The UN High Commissioner for Refugees said that 1,500 Rwandans, who apparently left from northern Burundi on foot late Tuesday, had already arrived at Kigali camp in eastern Tanzania.

The refugees, mostly Hutus, said they had become alarmed by an armed attack Monday on a camp in Ngosi Province, in which 12 refugees were killed, and by the evacuation of foreigners from Bujumbura after the ethnic violence there last weekend.

(AFP, Reuters)

Sudan Rebels Also Call a Cease-Fire

Agence France-Presse

NAIROBI — Sudanese rebels declared a two-month cease-fire on Thursday to match a government truce announced after mediation by former President Jimmy Carter.

The rebel truce was to take

Delegation to Visit South Africa

Reuters

PRETORIA — King Hassan II of Morocco is to pay a state visit to South Africa from April 23 to 25, Foreign Ministry sources said Thursday.

that the cease-fire was not violated.

The SPLA will consider any troop movements during this cease-fire period as a violation of the cease-fire, unless there is international monitoring and coordination of such movements.

He added that the cease-fire was intended to enhance the distribution of humanitarian supplies and facilitate vaccination programs.

The 12-year-old civil war has caused widespread famine and killed more than a million people.

Colonel Garang called for international monitors to ensure

French Accept Homosexuals, Survey Shows

Reuters

PARIS — The French are tolerant of homosexuals in politics, wary of the idea of gay marriage and oppose allowing homosexuals to adopt children, according to an opinion poll made public Thursday.

The survey by the BVA polling group for the gay magazine Illio and the radio station Radio FG revealed greater acceptance of gay rights among women than men and showed that young people were more tolerant of homosexuals than older people.

Overall, it found that 71 percent of voters would not change their vote in the April-May presidential election if they discovered that the candidate they favored was homosexual.

The poll indicated that 50 percent favored and 47 percent opposed letting lesbians and gay men wed in civil services.

But the survey also indicated that 80 percent of the French were opposed to artificial reproduction for homosexuals, and 62 percent would bar them from adopting children. It also showed that 72 percent were willing to give homosexuals the same rights to inherit from their partners as heterosexuals.

Mr. Robin flew to Bonn on Wednesday for four hours of previously unannounced talks with Mr. Kohl.

Foreign Minister Shimoo Peres of Israel had denied that the talks concerned the report. But on Thursday, an Israeli television station reported that the Kohl-Rabin meeting was an effort to resolve differences stemming from the report, which had threatened to cancel Mr. Kohl's planned visit to Israel in June.

The conflict, officials said, resulted from an article in the Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung newspaper in Germany, which said last month that Bonn had negotiated on Israel's behalf with Iran for the release of the Israeli aviator.

The aviator, Ron Arad, has been missing since he was shot down over Lebanon in 1986. The newspaper said he was being held by Iranian fundamentalists.

Both Israel and Iran denied negotiating over Captain Arad, and a senior Israeli Parliament member, Ori Orr, accused Germany of disclosing its account to "sanitize" commercial ties with Iran.

A German government spokesman, Peter Haussmann, said Thursday that the talks were routine.

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Great Britain £	210	53	65
Ireland Sh.	230	37	68
Italy Lira	470,000	50	145,000
Luxembourg L.F.	14,000	61	4,200
Netherlands Fl.	770	40	230
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Spain Pes.	48,000	41	14,500
hand delivery Madrid Pes.	55,000	33	14,500
Sweden (Skr.)	3,100	34	900
hand delivery S.Kr.	3,500	28	1,000
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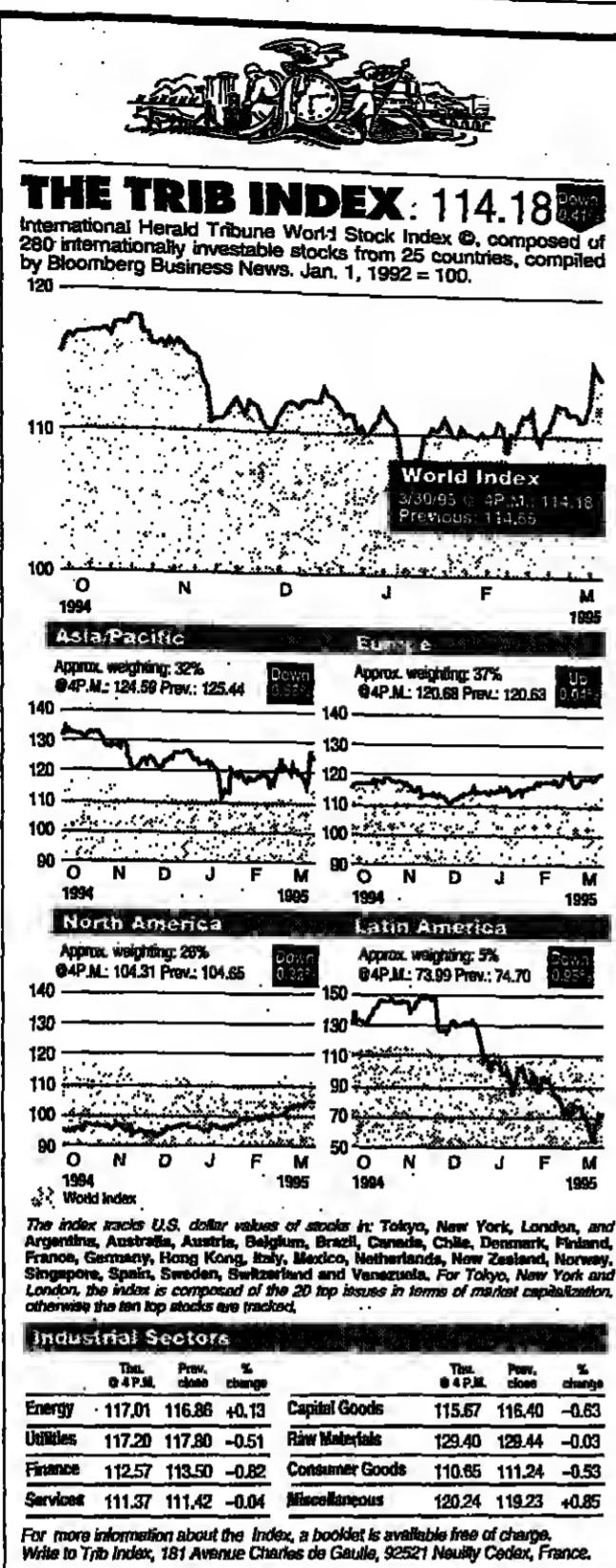
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The index tracks U.S. dollar values of stocks in Tokyo, New York, London, and Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Italy, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United States. For Tokyo, New York, and London, the index is composed of the top 20 issues in terms of market capitalization; otherwise the top 10 stocks are tracked.

Industrial Sectors						
	Th. 4 P.M.	Prev. close	% change	Th. 4 P.M.	Prev. close	
Energy	117.01	116.86	+0.13	115.67	116.40	-0.63
Utilities	117.20	117.00	+0.20	123.40	123.44	-0.03
Finance	112.57	113.50	-0.82	110.65	111.24	-0.53
Services	111.37	111.42	-0.04	120.24	118.23	+0.05

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Japan's Rush to Deregulate Shifts Into Slow Motion

By Steven Brill
International Herald Tribune

TOKYO — Two years ago, after the Liberal Democrats lost their decades-long grip on power, there was genuine hope that Japan would begin to deregulate its rule-bound economy. Deregulation was pitched as the key to lowering sky-high prices for consumers, preparing industry for the 21st century and improving foreign access to Japanese markets.

"It's too little, too slow," complained Shojiro Makino, a director of Grace Japan K.K. and a member of a private-sector deregulation review committee that reports to the prime minister.

On Friday, the government announces a long-awaited five-year deregulation plan, hope for significant progress is virtually absent, even though the soaring yen has highlighted the urgency of reform.

"It's too little, too slow," complained Shojiro Makino, a director of Grace Japan K.K. and a member of a private-sector deregulation review committee that reports to the prime minister.

"There's a lack of clear timetables and action plans. Everything is subject to review and approval," said Mr. Makino, who represented the American Chamber of Commerce on the committee.

Without doubt, the past two years have made deregulation an article of faith in Japan. In public, hardly a single bureaucrat, businessman or politician is opposed to deregulation in principle.

"It's like a mantra," said Don Kimball, senior economist at Mitsubishi Bank. "People keep on saying it, hoping it's going to elevate the economy."

In private, though, it is clear that there remains little consensus on what should be deregulated. Bureaucrats, of course, continue to fight attempts to reduce their powers.

But every industry is of two minds. Many companies hurt by the strong yen are lobbying for measures that would lower their costs of doing business. But they continue to resist moves

that would reduce their margins and prices to consumers.

"They're all saying somebody else should be deregulated but me," said an official at the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo.

There is also a growing group of companies, including foreign concerns that have become deeply entrenched in that is having second thoughts.

"Some people are beginning to wonder why we should open up and face stronger competition from abroad," Mr. Makino said.

Japanese politicians would normally be expected to play the role of pushing the process forward. But the Socialists, whose leader, Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama, heads the coalition dominated by the Liberal Democrats, are loath to deregulate agriculture, distribution and other industries that are central to their constituency.

Indeed, the only areas of consensus are those such as telecommunications, where fears of falling behind the United States have motivated industry and

bureaucracy alike. The government, for instance, is liberalizing access by private telecommunication networks to telephone lines owned by Nippon Telephone & Telegraph.

The Friday report is expected to include more than 1,000 measures, but as many as two-thirds of these will be totally without substance, according to Hiroshi Tachibana, an official of Keidanren, Japan's biggest business federation, which has been lobbying for faster deregulation.

According to local press reports, the most significant measure in the Friday package will be a pledge to review the status of holding companies in Japan over the next three years. Holding companies were banned after World War II by American occupying forces, who feared a revival of the zaibatsu, or conglomerates, that dominated the prewar economy. Industry favors a lifting of the ban, believing it would facilitate industrial restructuring.

In addition, there will be calls to strengthen Japan's Fair Trade Commission, measures to promote more efficient use of urban farmland, and greater acceptance of promotional give-aways.

But despite heavy pressure, key moves sought by Washington and Brussels are conspicuously absent, notably further liberalization of regulations that restrict the opening and operation of large retail outlets. Instead of abolishing the law, the package is likely only to recommend that regulations be reviewed by the year 2000.

Given the outlook, proponents are hiding their disappointment and planning to greet Friday's package with pledges to keep up pressure on the government.

"Deregulation is an ongoing process," Mr. Tachibana said. "Our goal has been to get as many regulations listed as possible, and then keep up the pressure to see them realized."

'Start' Is Proving True to Its Name

By Brandon Mitchener
International Herald Tribune

AMSTERDAM — When Dutch flower farmers in Aalsmeer, southwest of Amsterdam, could not find enough labor despite high unemployment and the best efforts of the local employment office, they dialed Start, a nonprofit, temporary services agency known for innovative ideas and quick results.

Start studied the situation and found that the main problem was one of logistics. It turned out that Amsterdam was full of low-skilled workers who had been looking for employment for months but did not have any way to get to Aalsmeer, which was poorly connected by public transportation.

The solution was simple, if unconventional. "We provided cars," said Sybe Attema, general manager of the agency he helped found in 1977. Indeed, Start lent company-owned cars to the workers for the duration of their stints as flower farmers, and even paid part of the operating expenses.

"People thought we were crazy, giving cars to the unemployed, but it worked," said Mr. Attema.

The story of Aalsmeer's flower farmers is an example of the pragmatic, bureaucratic solutions to joblessness that have made Start known throughout Europe.

While the Netherlands itself is no model of full unemployment — its jobless rate hovers around 9 percent, 44 percent of whom have been out of work for more than a year — Start is universally regarded as a success. With 250 offices, 1,500 employees and annual revenue of more than \$30 million (gulders) (\$519.4 million), it has grown

long-term, low-skilled unemployed over the four years.

The Start model is currently being studied or tested in Germany, Slovakia, Austria and Spain, all of which see it as one partial, low-cost solution to the ticking social time bomb of long-term unemployment.

The advantage is that companies can test people without having to make any contractual commitment," said Wolfgang Franz, a member of Germany's council of economic advisers who teaches labor economics at the University of Konstanz and has pushed Germany to embrace the Start model.

"Personnel officers, especially in small companies, say Start spares them the anguish of having to dismiss people they know had previously been unemployed for a long time and would probably end up that way again," Mr. Franz said.

One feature that makes Start unusual is that it accepts no government subsidies, although the government is represented on its board, along with officials from unions and employer associations.

Moreover, surprisingly few companies abuse the six-month legal limitation on "temporary" referrals in order to avoid giving their staffs permanent contracts with benefits. "I only know of one, a bank,"

See START, Page 17

to become the country's second-largest temporary-services agency.

Those sent out into the working world by Start are technically employed by Start itself, which receives workers' monthly salaries — plus a 19 percent commission to pay its overhead — from the companies for whom the workers actually toil.

Despite a stated policy to try to help the long-term unemployed, the handicapped, women and minorities — an approach avoided by its private-sector competitors — Start has filled more than 750,000 temporary positions since its founding, about a third of which have led to permanent employment.

The long-term unemployed account for about a quarter of Start's total annual placements of between 80,000 and 100,000 workers, which makes it as ambitious as the government's recently announced plan to create 40,000 public-service jobs for the

France Sets Probe of Water Firm

By Brandon Mitchener
International Herald Tribune

PARIS — Jean-Dominique Deschamps, deputy managing director of Compagnie Générale des Eaux, was placed under formal investigation on suspicion of influence peddling, falsification, use of falsified documents and corruption by the Paris magistrate Jacqueline Meyson, judicial sources said

Thursday. The executive was allowed to leave the Paris court late Thursday afternoon after being held 48 hours by police for questioning in an inquiry into a suspected political financing.

The magistrate was investigating some 14 million francs (\$2.9 million) paid, according to judicial sources, by the private water supply and sewerage utility to a research firm close to the Communist party, which controls several important municipal councils in France.

Générale des Eaux said last July, when Justice Minister Pierre Méhaignerie ordered the inquiry, that the payments were for "real and justified services."

There have been allegations that French political parties have used consultancy firms to receive payments from companies, notably suppliers of services to local authorities.

Strong Franc Deflates Earnings at Swissair

The Associated Press

ZURICH — The Swissair group said Thursday that net profit in 1994 slumped to 23 million Swiss francs (\$20.3 million), down from 59 million francs in 1993.

The group, which includes the shareholder-owned national airline, blamed the result on the strength of the Swiss franc and said it would not pay a dividend for the second straight year. Operating revenue was 6.45 billion francs, slightly higher than in 1993.

Swissair said there had been large increases in passenger numbers but that these had been offset by currency exchange-rate fluctuations. Net profit from the airline alone was 3 million francs, down from 7 million francs in 1993.

A strong franc means that earnings on foreign markets are worth less in Swiss currency. The franc rose nearly 14 percent against the U.S. dollar last year and has risen even further this year, giving rise to fears among many Swiss companies that they will lose foreign customers as their exports become too expensive.

Switzerland's central bank said Thursday that it planned no change in monetary policy, stressing that control of inflation — which is helped by a strong currency — remained the top priority.

Commerzbank Says Trading Loss Hits Profit

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

FRANKFURT — Commerzbank AG, one of Germany's leading banks, said Thursday that a squeeze on trading profit forced 1994 operating profit down 39 percent from 1993, to 622 million Deutsche marks (\$501 million).

The bank previously reported that 1994 net profit rose 80 percent, to 1.06 billion DM, largely owing to the sale of stakes in German retailer Karstadt AG and insurance group DBV Holding.

Commerzbank said income from its own trading plunged 81 percent, to 105 million DM.

"1994 did not fulfill our business expectations," said the chief executive, Martin Kohlhausen. "We had set our goals higher."

But Mr. Kohlhausen said he expected the bank to post "satisfactory" profit in 1995, "barring unforeseen circumstances."

Commerzbank said that 1994 was a difficult year for international capital markets, and this had hit the bank's own-account trading results.

He said stock and bond trading posted a net loss of 84 million DM, while foreign exchange and derivatives trading made "significant gains." Derivatives business alone contributed 57 million DM to trading income, Mr. Kohlhausen said.

The bank said 1995 got off to a slow start, with operating profit down in the first two months, as rising operating costs offset an increase to 43 million DM in trading income. It did not provide comparative figures.

Total assets in 1994 rose to 342.6 billion DM at year end, compared with 285.8 billion posted at end-1993.

Mr. Kohlhausen said the bank expected 1995 risk provisions to fall from a net 1.66 billion DM last year. Domestic provisions remained high, while provisions against losses on international debt were reduced "below 1 billion DM," he said.

Net interest income rose 5 percent, to 5.10 billion DM, mainly because of domestic business.

Separately, Commerzbank said it would buy as much as 75 percent of the British fund manager, Jupiter Tyndall Group PLC, in a bid that values the company at £169 million (\$272 million).

Mr. Kohlhausen said he was "convinced" that Jupiter Tyndall's shareholders would accept the offer.

The bank also announced it had raised its stake in Kolbenschmidt AG to 49.9 percent from 24.9 percent.

(AFX, Bloomberg, Knight-Ridder)

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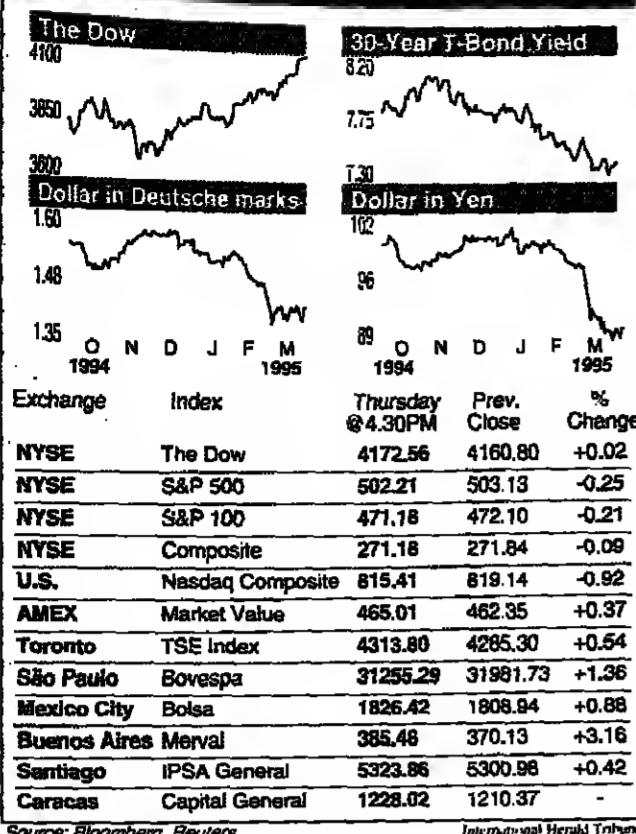
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Investor's America



U.S. Cuts Long-Distance Call Charges Cyclical Issues Help Power Wall Street

By Edmund L. Andrews
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — The Federal Communications Commission ordered U.S. local telephone companies Thursday to reduce the access charges they impose on long-distance carriers by about \$1 billion a year for the next few years, agency officials said on Wednesday.

The rate cuts translate into one of the biggest single reductions in long-distance telephone prices since the breakup of the Bell System 10 years ago. Consumers are likely to feel some of the impact in lower long-distance prices, though long-distance carriers like AT&T Corp., MCI Communications Corp. and Sprint Corp. will try to enrich themselves unfairly.

Government officials, speaking on the condition of anonymity, said the new rules reduce these local charges about 4 percent a year for the next few years. That reduction would roughly double the average decline in access charges in recent years, they said.

Access charges are also the biggest source of profit for local telephone companies, and the rates have come down very gradually over the last decade.

A typical long-distance call from New York to Los Angeles costs from 10 to 27 cents a minute, depending on the time of day and a customer's discounts. But long-distance carriers must pay about 4 cents a minute to each local phone company on either end of the conversation — 8 cents a minute all told.

Consumer advocacy groups and the long-distance carriers have been lobbying the government for months to push these prices down sharply, charging that the regional Bell companies have been able to enrich themselves unfairly.

Government officials, speaking on the condition of anonymity, said the new rules reduce these local charges about 4 percent a year for the next few years. That reduction would roughly double the average decline in access charges in recent years, they said.

The commission's action is intended to be part of a grand bargain in which the local phone companies, in exchange for lowering access charges, would be free to keep more of the profits they can make from long-distance access services by cutting their own expenses. Until now, the commission has put a cap on the profits the local companies can make from these access services.

In addition, the federal agency plans to develop rules over the next few months that would give the local companies much greater flexibility in the way they allocate costs in pricing various services.

"The goal here is to reinvigorate competition among long-distance companies by reducing the cost of access," said Reed E. Hundt, chairman of the commission.

The new rules fall well short of the reductions sought by consumer groups and long-distance carriers.

"This is chicken feed," said Brian Moir, Washington counsel for the International Communications Association.

cut on Thursday helped equities. "The Germans cutting their rates and taking pressure off the dollar here is clearly a positive," one analyst said. "Alleviating concern over the dollar over the short term will be interpreted by U.S. investors as positive for stocks," partly because they will look more attractive to overseas investors.

Stocks of cyclical companies climbed for a second day as investors anticipated a longer economic expansion while makers of consumer goods once lagged.

International Paper added 1%, to 75%, Georgia-Pacific jumped 2, to 80%, Champion sported 1%, to 42%, and Mead increased 1%, to 54%.

(Bloomberg, Reuters)

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

NEW YORK — Stocks rose

Thursday as cyclical issues,

such as paper and auto compa-

nies, attracted buyers

more than technical issues,

which fell on profit-taking, ana-

lysts said.

Technology shares damp-

ened investor sentiment toward the broader market and partly eclipsed a German interest rate cut, which lifted the dollar, traders said.

The semiconductor index is just getting pummeled again, and that's been the leadership group" during the stock market's rally since late November, said Todd Clark, a trader at Rodman & Renshaw.

The Dow Jones industrial average closed 11.76 points higher, at 4,172.56.

Advancing shares on the New York Stock Exchange outpaced losers by a 3-to-2 margin.

The price of the 30-year benchmark Treasury bond dropped 13/32, to 102 19/32, to lift the yield to 7.41 percent from 7.37 percent Wednesday.

Intel fell 3 1/16, to 84, Texas Instruments was down 64, at 58, and Micron Technology slid 4/4, to 74%. IBM dropped 1/4, to 81 1/4, Hewlett-Packard fell 2/4, to 119 1/4.

The Bundesbank interest rate

To Our Readers

Because of the seven-hour time difference between New York and Paris until April 3, the U.S. stocks-tables, the U.S. Futures prices and some other items in this edition are from 3 P.M. New York time instead of the usual 4 P.M.

The change is necessary to meet distribution requirements. Most editions will again carry closing prices and indexes after April 3, when Daylight Saving Time begins in the United States.

Did Sexual Harassment Cost Grace CEO His Job?

By Diana B. Henriques
New York Times Service

Very briefly:

Ingersoll Sued Over Hostile Clark Bid

WOODCLIFF LAKE, New Jersey (Reuters) — Ingersoll-Rand Co. said Thursday that Clark Equipment Co. had filed a lawsuit against it, alleging that Ingersoll would violate U.S. antitrust laws if it succeeded in its hostile proposal to acquire Clark.

Ingersoll termed the suit — filed in a New York U.S. District Court — a "diversionsary tactic."

Ingersoll said earlier this week that it wanted to buy Clark for between \$75 and \$77 per share in cash. Clark said it wanted to remain independent and termed the offer inadequate.

Banc One Has Large Derivatives Loss

COLUMBUS, Ohio (Bloomberg) — Banc One Corp. said Thursday that it had \$1.3 billion of unrealized losses from its derivatives portfolio at the end of 1994, according to a Securities and Exchange Commission filing.

A year earlier, the Columbus, Ohio-based banking company's total derivatives portfolio showed a net potential gain of \$217 million, the filing said.

The bank's derivatives portfolio is not likely to undermine its balance sheet, said Glen Grabelsky, an analyst at Standard & Poor's Corp.

The losses are unrealized because Banc One has not sold the derivatives and they are still outstanding.

Watson Pharmaceuticals Inc. has agreed to buy Circa Pharmaceuticals Inc. in a stock swap valued at about \$506.8 million.

Tennessee Valley Authority is issuing \$500 million of its first bonds specifically aimed at small retail investors. The electric utility said the 50-year bonds in denominations of \$25 would provide it access to new debt markets. NYT, Bloomberg, AP/PA

statement, the company is attributing Mr. Bolduc's departure to allegations of sexual harassment against him by employees.

The disclosure transforms what was already a bare-knuckled fight for control of a \$5 billion company into a drama that touches on the emotionally sensitive issue of sexual harassment in the workplace.

The case is apparently the first in which a major U.S. corporation cited sexual harassment complaints in the departure of a chief executive, women's advocacy groups said.

For Grace shareholders, the new explanation of the departure adds to the confusion and anxiety over the company's future. J. Peter Grace Jr., the longtime chairman, was

forced to resign March 17 by institutional investors dismayed by Mr. Bolduc's ouster.

Gerald Walpin, a lawyer for Mr. Bolduc, said that his client "categorically, unequivocally and vehemently denies that he ever engaged in any act of sexual harassment."

He said the preliminary proxy statement was "not fully checked for accuracy."

[Mr. Walpin said Mr. Bolduc might sue Grace over the charge. Bloomberg Business News reported Thursday from Florida.]

According to people familiar with the board's deliberations, Mr. Bolduc was accused of making suggestive remarks and engaging in unwelcome physical contact repeatedly with at least five women staffers.

In Washington, the Treasury issued a statement that said the cut "should contribute to sustained expansion in Europe."

Some currency analysts felt the Bundesbank move may restore stability to the currency markets in the me-

dium term. In the long term, they said, the dollar is still threatened by the U.S. current-account deficit.

Carl Weinberg of High Frequency Economics predicted that the dollar's

prospects would not improve until the United States reduces its current-account deficit, which he said caused the amount of dollars being sold in currency markets to increase by as much as \$150 billion last year. He said that figure was bound to keep climbing as long as U.S. investors kept their newfound taste for investment abroad.

Avinash Persaud of J.P. Morgan in London said the Bundesbank's principal goal was to reduce the currency pressures within the European Monetary System, but the effect on Europe's peripheral currencies such as the Spanish peseta and the Italian lira was less

clear, as was the outlook for the dollar. Kevin Harris of MCM Currencywatch in New York saw relief spreading to those currencies as well as the dollar. He said foreign currency that had flowed into Germany would now flee its relatively lower short-term interest rates and its sagging stock market for Southern Europe.

"These are the ripple effects of the Bundesbank's decision," Mr. Harris said. He added that the Mexican peso could benefit too. Indeed, the dollar firmed strengthened Thursday: the dollar fetched 6.675 pesos at the end of trading, compared to 6.795 on Wednesday.

Surprise German Rate Cut Gives the Dollar a Reprieve at Last

By Lawrence Malkin
International Herald Tribune

NEW YORK — The dollar posted a strong rebound on Thursday after Germany's surprise interest rate cut, but there was no evidence that the Bundesbank's move was part of a coordinated effort with the Federal Reserve or the Bank of Japan.

The dollar's surge represented a victory for Treasury Secretary Robert E. Rubin's hands-off policy of allowing the market to snap back and correct itself without supporting

the dollar by direct intervention or a rise in domestic interest rates.

The Treasury and the Fed should now be better able to let the strength of the economy, not the dollar, decide whether U.S. rates need to rise further.

In New York, the dollar rose more than two pfennig, closing at 1.4090 Deutsche marks, up from 1.3828 the dollar at the Wednesday close. The dollar rose to 89.605 yen from 88.350.

Against the French franc, the dollar closed at 4.9120 francs, up from 4.8805. It rose to 1.1690 Swiss francs from 1.1425, while the pound fell to \$1.6035 from \$1.6128.

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Foreign Exchange

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WORLD STOCK MARKETS

Thursday, March 30	High	Low	Close	Prev.	High	Low	Close	Prev.	High	Low	Close	Prev.	High	Low	Close	Prev.	High	Low	Close	Prev.	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Prices in local currencies.																								
Telekurs	High	Low	Close	Prev.	Frankfurt	High	Low	Close	Prev.	Johannesburg	High	Low	Close	Prev.	Singapore	High	Low	Close	Prev.	Stockholm	High	Low	Close	Prev.
Amsterdam	High	Low	Close	Prev.	AMG	290	289	290	290	Anglo-Am Corp.	194	192	192	195	Car-UWA	23	228	228	228	Aschaffenburg	1070	989	7000	1010
Bangkok	High	Low	Close	Prev.	Altair	265	617	617	620	Anglo-Am Corp.	194	192	192	195	Cascades	8	75	75	75	Chemours	24	278	274	24
Berlin	High	Low	Close	Prev.	Altores	345	255	254	254	Anglo-Am Corp.	194	192	192	195	CFI Flint Corp.	117	117	117	117	Chemours	145	145	145	145
Brussels	High	Low	Close	Prev.	Altrof Hdg	246	245	245	245	Anglo-Am Corp.	194	192	192	195	China Glass	8	75	75	75	Chemours	145			

EUROPE

BMW Sees Strong Mark Hitting Net

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

MUNICH — Bayerische Motoren Werke AG warned Thursday that the strength of the Deutsche mark could curb profit despite strong sales in the first quarter and a 35.1 percent profit increase last year. But the German carmaker said it was still on course for satisfactory results this year.

BMW said its group sales surged 50 percent, to 11.25 billion DM (\$8.15 billion) in the first quarter, compared with the first three months of last year, mainly because of its acquisition of Rover Group Ltd., which it bought last year.

Excluding Rover, BMW sales rose 13.3 percent, to 8.5 billion DM, the company said.

Earlier this month, BMW reported that net profit for 1994 had risen 35 percent, to 677 million Deutsche marks, on sales of 42.125 billion DM.

ING Net Rises 13% Despite Peso's Crisis

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

AMSTERDAM — Internationale Nederlanden Groep NV reported Thursday that 1994 net profit rose 13 percent, to 2.30 billion guilders (\$1.49 billion) from 2.03 billion in 1993.

The Dutch financial institution said its nonlife insurance business boomed. But the profit picture was clouded by a 96 percent drop in trading income.

ING lost money on trading Latin American debt. It said the devaluation of the Mexican peso hurt results in the final quarter.

The company proposed a dividend of 3.75 guilders per share, up from 3.49 guilders for 1993.

ING bought most of Barings PLC last month, following the British bank's collapse due to bad futures bets by a Singapore dealer, Nicholas Leeson.

ING said the acquisition would "have a neutral effect on the profit for the 1995 financial year and a positive effect on earnings per share for subsequent years."

But its 1.7 billion guilder investment in Barings would result in write-offs of around 1.2 billion guilder, ING said.

(Bloomberg, AP, AFX, Reuters)

Dividend Cut Hurts Redland

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

LONDON — Redland PLC posted a 34 percent rise in 1994 pretax profit Thursday, but the company's shares fell following a sharp cut in its annual dividend.

Improved demand for building materials in Europe helped Redland post pretax profit of £373 million (\$600 million), up from £278.9 million in 1993. Revenue rose 12 percent to £2.78 billion. Redland said operating margins rose to 14 percent from 12.3 percent.

Redland, the largest British producer of building materials, said it must increase investment in new products and expansion if it hopes to ease its dependence on success in Germany, which now accounts for half its operating profit. To free up

cash, the company cut its dividend by a third, to 11.17 pence per share from 16.75 pence.

Redland stock fell 19 pence, or 4 percent, to 466 pence.

In another effort to help its bottom line, Redland doubled the amount of money it takes from its German unit, Braas GmbH. When Braas was spending heavily on investments in Eastern Germany, Redland took about a third of its profits. In 1994, with much of that investment complete, Redland took 63 percent of the profit.

Redland also sold its stake in an Australian roofing and brick business, Monier PGH Ltd., to CSR Ltd. for 195 million Australian dollars (\$141 million).

The company put other businesses up for sale.

The dividend cut, asset sales, redistribution of German earn-

ings and debt reduction were expected to boost earnings per share by 10 percent, with about one-third of that reflected in the 1994 results, the company said.

(Bloomberg, AFX)

BAA Sets Rights Issue

British Aerospace PLC said

Thursday it would use a two-

part rights offer to raise up to

£283 million toward a potential

cash purchase of VSEL PLC if

the Monopolies and Mergers

Commission lets it bid for the

British warship builder, Bloom-

berg Business News reported

from London.

The commission is examining whether the rival offers for VSEL from British Aerospace and General Electric Co. of Britain have antitrust implications. A decision is expected in April.

CarnaudMetalbox Posts a Rise in Profit

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

PARIS — CarnaudMetalbox SA said Thursday its 1994 net profit rose 14 percent as the company benefited from a restructuring program and from reduced tax and financial charges.

The British-French packaging and container company said it earned a net profit of 950 million French francs (\$195 million), compared with 835 million a year earlier.

Revenue rose 2 percent in 1994, to 24.89 billion francs, while operating profit increased 7 percent, to 2.2 billion francs.

CarnaudMetalbox raised its dividend to 4.4 francs a share from 4 francs. The company's shares rose 2 francs to 182 francs.

The company's chief executive, Jürgen Hintz, said the results were "encouraging."

It efforts to reorganize, the company has focused on improved inventory control, closing factories and shedding 5 percent of its work force.

A 742 million-franc reduction in debt lowered the impact of financial costs; restructuring charges were lower and tax payments fell to 16 percent from 22 percent.

"Some of our raw material costs have shown steep year-on-year increases, although the trend appears to be leveling off," he added.

As world commodity prices shift, CarnaudMetalbox is considering conversion of can production as its customers consider switching to cheaper steel from aluminum. (Bloomberg, Reuters)

INTERNATIONAL FUTURES**Grains**

SOYBEANS (CBOT)

\$/tonne-dollars per metric ton

May '95 26.07 25.72 -0.05 28.268

June '95 27.20 26.63 0.45 27.500

Aug '95 27.20 26.63 0.45 27.500

Sep '95 27.20 26.63 0.45 27.500

Oct '95 27.20 26.63 0.45 27.500

Dec '95 27.20 26.63 0.45 27.500

Est. sales 29.000 Wed.'s. sales 10.456

Wed.'s open int 45.045 off 629

High 26.50 Low 25.50 Chg. 0.05 Open Int 45.045

GOLD (NCAK)

\$/troy oz - dollars per troy oz

May '95 1,367.00 1,370.00 +0.03 1,371.715

Jul '95 1,357.00 1,357.00 +0.00 1,357.00

Sep '95 1,357.00 1,357.00 +0.00 1,357.00

Oct '95 1,357.00 1,357.00 +0.00 1,357.00

Dec '95 1,357.00 1,357.00 +0.00 1,357.00

Est. sales 50.000 Wed.'s. sales 42.764

Wed.'s open int 45.045 off 629

High 1,370.00 Low 1,357.00 Chg. 0.00 Open Int 45.045

COFFEE (CBOT)

\$/tonne-dollars per metric ton

May '95 1,646.00 1,646.00 +0.40 32.221

June '95 1,646.00 1,646.00 +0.40 32.221

Aug '95 1,646.00 1,646.00 +0.40 32.221

Sep '95 1,646.00 1,646.00 +0.40 32.221

Oct '95 1,646.00 1,646.00 +0.40 32.221

Dec '95 1,646.00 1,646.00 +0.40 32.221

Est. sales 50.000 Wed.'s. sales 42.764

Wed.'s open int 45.045 off 629

High 1,646.00 Low 1,646.00 Chg. 0.40 Open Int 45.045

SOYBEAN OIL (CBOT)

\$/tonne-dollars per metric ton

May '95 24.07 25.72 -0.05 28.268

June '95 24.07 25.72 -0.05 28.268

Aug '95 24.07 25.72 -0.05 28.268

Sep '95 24.07 25.72 -0.05 28.268

Oct '95 24.07 25.72 -0.05 28.268

Dec '95 24.07 25.72 -0.05 28.268

Est. sales 18.000 Wed.'s. sales 16.892

Wed.'s open int 45.045 off 629

High 24.07 Low 23.50 Chg. 0.00 Open Int 45.045

WHEAT (CBOT)

\$/tonne-dollars per metric ton

May '95 3.27 3.44 -0.05 3.454

June '95 3.27 3.44 -0.05 3.454

Aug '95 3.27 3.44 -0.05 3.454

Sep '95 3.27 3.44 -0.05 3.454

Oct '95 3.27 3.44 -0.05 3.454

Dec '95 3.27 3.44 -0.05 3.454

Est. sales 10.000 Wed.'s. sales 10.073

Wed.'s open int 51.123 off 124

High 3.27 Low 3.10 Chg. 0.00 Open Int 51.123

LIVESTOCK

\$/head-dollars per head

May '95 67.65 68.00 -0.25 67.875

June '95 67.65 68.00 -0.25 67.875

Aug '95 67.65 68.00 -0.25 67.875

Sep '95 67.65 68.00 -0.25 67.875

Oct '95 67.65 68.00 -0.25 67.875

Dec '95 67.65 68.00 -0.25 67.875

Est. sales 12.000 Wed.'s. sales 12.157

Wed.'s open int 67.65 off 373

High 67.65 Low 67.65 Chg. 0.00 Open Int 67.65

PORK CATTLE (CBOT)

\$/head-dollars per head

May '95 66.47 66.48 -0.01 66.48

June '95 66.47 66.48 -0.01 66.48

Aug '95 66.47 66.48 -0.01 66.48

Sep '95 66.47 66.48 -0.01 66.48

Oct '95 66.47 66.48 -0.01 66.48

Dec '95 66.47 66.48 -0.01 66.48

Est. sales 12.000 Wed.'s. sales 12.157

Wed.'s open int 66.47 off 373

High 66.47 Low 66.47 Chg. 0.00 Open Int 66.47

COFFEE (CME)

\$/tonne-dollars per metric ton

May '95 167.00 167.00 +0.00 167.00

June '95 167.00 167.00 +0.00 167.00

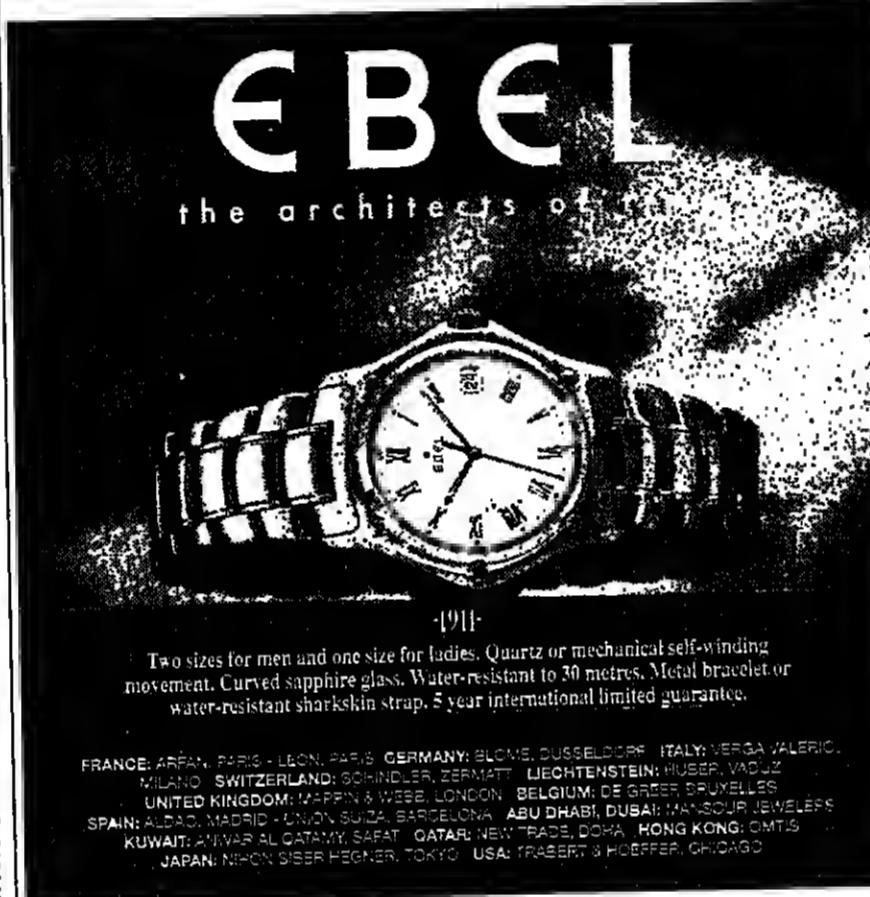
Aug '95 167.00 167.00 +0.00 167.00</

NYSE

Thursday's 4 p.m. Close

Nationwide prices, not reflecting late trade elsewhere.
The Associated Press.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.



Two sizes for men and one size for ladies. Quartz or mechanical self-winding movement. Curved sapphire glass. Water-resistant to 30 metres. Metal bracelet or water-resistant sharkskin strap. 5 year international limited guarantee.

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 MILANO SWITZERLAND: SCHINDLER, ZERMATT LIECHTENSTEIN: RUSER, VAGUE
 UNITED KINGDOM: MAPPIN & WEBB, LONDON BELGIUM: DE GREER, BRUXELLES
 SPAIN: ALDAO, MADRID - UNION SUIZA, BARCELONA ABU DHABI, DUBAI: MANSOUR JEWELERS
 KUWAIT: ANWAR AL QATAMIY, SAFAT QATAR: NEW TRADE, DOHA HONG KONG: CMTS
 JAPAN: NIHON SIBER HEGNER, TOKYO USA: TRABERT & HOEFFER, CHICAGO

Continued on Page 1

Farewell to Hong Kong

Jardine Units Raise Profit Before Delisting

Bloomberg Business News

HONG KONG — Two premier units of the Jardine Matheson group reported higher 1994 profit on Thursday, one bolstered by rising commercial rents and the other by decreased competition in Hong Kong's luxury-hotel sector.

Hongkong Land Holdings Ltd., landlord for many of the territory's most prestigious office towers and shopping centers, said its 1994 net profit climbed by 19.2 percent, to \$365.5 million, helped by increased rental income. Analysts had forecast a 22 percent increase.

"Rental levels in Hong Kong are likely to weaken in 1995 and property values are expected to decline from the record levels reached in 1994," said Simon Keswick, the company's chairman. Rental income, however, would continue to rise as tenants renewed leases at higher rates, he said.

Earnings per share in 1994 rose by 2.2 cents to 13.9 cents. Given that performance, the company said it would lift its full-year dividend to 11.5 cents from 10.0 cents.

Hongkong Land released its results after the Hong Kong markets closed. Its shares closed at 16.55 Hong Kong dollars (\$2.14), up 25 cents. The shares were to stop trading in the territory on Friday and to begin trading in Singapore. They also trade in London.

The delisting is in line with previous decisions by other members of the Jardine Matheson group.

Some analysts have said the moves represent a lack of confidence in Hong Kong's future under Chinese rule, which begins in 1997.

Hongkong Land's average rental income for office space in Hong Kong rose 10.6 percent, to \$6.46 per square foot (\$69.50 per square meter), while rental

income for retail space rose 3.6 percent, to \$13.91 per square foot.

Separately, Mandarin Oriental International Ltd., the luxury-hotel group, said its net profit rose 20.1 percent in 1994 as increased earnings at two Hong Kong hotels offset reduced contributions from properties in Southeast Asia. Profits after tax and minority interests for the year ended Dec. 31 was \$49 million, compared with \$40.8 million in 1993.

Sales increased 15.4 percent, to \$183.4 million, while earnings per share rose 19 percent, to 7.13 cents.

"The situation in Hong Kong is that so many hotels have been closed down for redevelopment, the cyclical downturn has been delayed," said Carl Wong, a hotel-industry analyst at James Capel & Co. (Asia).

The hotel group was also to delist its shares from the Hong Kong stock exchange beginning Friday. They fell 5 cents to close at 9.90 dollars in Hong Kong on Thursday.

Mr. Keswick, who is also chairman of Mandarin Oriental, said: "The group's Hong Kong hotels should continue their strong performances in 1995 and some improvement is expected in other markets."

Pretax profit from hotels in Hong Kong and Macao surged 31 percent, to \$45.3 million, 72.6 percent of the overall total. The company also said contributions had improved, from Oriental hotels in Bangkok and in Singapore.

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NASDAQ

Thursday's 4 p.m.
The 1,000 most-traded National Market securities in
terms of dollar value, updated twice a year.
The Associated Press.

ollar value, updated twice a week.

NYSE

Thursday's 4 p.m. Close
(Continued)

(Continued)

SPORTS

Mighty Mary Loses Another Race, but Gains a Hearing

By Angus Phillips
Washington Post Service

SAN DIEGO — The Mighty Mary has been driven another step nearer America's Cup elimination on the water, but has turned up the heat on a legal battle ashore that may put it and its crew of 15 women and one man in the defender finals next month.

Mighty Mary was beaten wire-to-wire at sea Wednesday for the second straight day, this time by fleet-leader Young America, and by 1 minute, 11 seconds. That left the boat of the America' syndicate one point behind Dennis Conner's Stars & Stripes in the fight for the remaining berth in the finals, with one race to go.

On the challenger course, Team New Zealand and Tag Heuer Challenge won their races, with Black Magic 1, in its last match of the semifinals, beating oneAustralia by 2:39. Tag Heuer Challenge, outsailing the winless Nippon by 2:26 to close to a point of the Australian boat.

If Conner wins any of his three remaining races, including the one Friday against Mighty Mary, it would be gone from the competition and the year-long quest to put a female crew in the high-profile final rounds of racing's premier event would be over.

But while the chances of Conner losing three straight seemed remote, his prospects on land in a simmering dispute took a turn for the worse with

the announcement that international jury would rule on the legality of controversial repairs he made to stay in the regatta. The jury heard evidence for 4½ hours Wednesday night, then decided to reconvene after Thursday's race.

If the jury rules against Conner, as seems possible, Stars & Stripes could be tossed from the field and the women would automatically advance.

Stars & Stripes came close to sinking when its keel broke and nearly fell off in Sunday's race against Young America. The keel was hastily replaced with an old one and the boat was back on the water Tuesday in time to beat the women. But the legality of the keel change was challenged by America,

which requested a hearing before an international jury.

The issue is simple: Did Conner have the right to replace the broken keel? Race rules permit such a change during a racing series, but only if the replacement is "similar" to the broken keel and if the team has obtained the written approval of official measures.

Vincent Moeyersoms, the president of the America' syndicate, produced documents Wednesday showing Conner did not have advance written permission from the chief measurer, Ken McAlpine, who notified race officials instead that his team did "not concur" that the new keel was similar to the one it replaced. In fact, it was not even

attached in the same place on the hull. Moeyersoms maintains that instead of getting advance clearance from McAlpine, Conner, a former commander of the San Diego Yacht Club, got it from the America's Cup Defense Committee, whose members include three other former SDYC commanders and the father-in-law of one of Conner's crewmen.

To America' officials, that was a violation.

The Defense Committee first refused to send the protest on to an international jury, but late afternoon the committee's chairman, Wyte Cable, relented and agreed to let the jury hear the case.

UCLA's Czech Star Gets Seattle Spring**Final Four Is Far From Prague**

By Malcolm Moran
New York Times Service

LOS ANGELES — George Zidek's UCLA teammates were listening to more questions about competing for a national basketball championship, questions that had to do with timing and pressure and the burdens of history.

He remembered how the square became a symbol for each side's sense of victory or defeat. He recalled the force police used to stop the demonstrators from advancing, and the beatings some friends endured. Zidek's size, his basketball skills and his family's reputation provided a path to a better life. But as he stood face to face with an officer, his safety and his future were threatened.

streets and the country changed forever.

"People demonstrated for freedom," Zidek said. "We commemorated how one young man died for academic freedom, so it was really close to freedom in general."

He remembered how the square became a symbol for each side's sense of victory or defeat. He recalled the force police used to stop the demonstrators from advancing, and the beatings some friends endured. Zidek's size, his basketball skills and his family's reputation provided a path to a better life. But as he stood face to face with an officer, his safety and his future were threatened.

"I got arrested at that time, it would have meant the end of my career," he said. "I would have been caught in an anti-Communist demonstration. That would pretty much be it."

"I begged one of the cops to let me out," Zidek said. "He just did. I don't know why. Maybe he knew my Dad or something, but I don't think so. I would have been such an obvious target. I can guarantee you I would have gotten beat up."

In a game that places so much importance on timing, Zidek's was perfect. The successful overthrow of the Communist regime meant that Zidek, who was then 16, would not have to confront the reality of leaving his family and country forever to pursue the game somewhere else. He returns home for six weeks each summer. His father has just purchased a satellite dish to watch his son this weekend.

Zidek was discovered by UCLA coaches at an all-star game in Prague, where the coaches went to see Julius Michalik, who would wind up at Iowa State. The Bruins wound up with two players, Richard Petruska and Zidek.

He has worked his way through the awkwardness that slowed his progress, the accent that led teammates to call him the Terminator, and 30 unnecessary pounds.

His effort has extended to the end of his senior year. On Wednesday afternoon, long after nearly all of Zidek's teammates were off the practice floor, he continued to work near a corner basket, trading post moves with a freshman center.

Zidek's hook shots, uncoiled smoothly with his right and left hands in the rhythm of an outdated instructional film, passed over the reach of the other player the way the Bruins are countering on those shots to elude the grasp of Reeves.

"He's going to score," said Jim Harrick, UCLA's coach. "Reeves has to go get him. George is a lot better away from the basket than Reeves is. He's not going to block his shot. It's whether George makes them or not."

TRANSITIONS

FOOTBALL
National Football League

PITTSBURGH — Shared Rich Stark, owner

Baseball Talks Are Set Before Court Hearing

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Major league baseball's strike talks were to be resumed Thursday night, just hours before a federal judge is to hold a hearing on whether to issue an injunction that would end the walkout.

"I'll be coming in," the acting commissioner, Bud Selig, said from Milwaukee late Wednesday night. "It's tentative; we have to firm it up in the morning. But I'm sure I'll be coming."

"We'll find out how serious the owners are when we make our counterproposal," Bobby Bonilla of the New York Mets said after the union's executive board concluded its two-day meeting.

U.S. District Court Judge Sotomayor has scheduled a hearing for Friday morning — just two days before the scheduled season opener — on the petition by the National Labor Relations Board for a preliminary injunction against the owners. The NLRB has accused them of illegally changing the terms of the expired collective bargaining agreement before an impasse in bargaining.

The union's executive board

voted unanimously Wednesday to end the 7½-month strike if Sotomayor issues an injunction restoring salary arbitration and free-agent bidding.

"If the prior terms and conditions of employment are restored effectively by the injunction, the players will end the strike and return to work," said the head of the union, Donald Fehr.

The owners were to hold a conference call Thursday to approve the use of replacement players. If the striking players do end the walkout, owners could lock them out. But that possibility is decreasing.

A lawyer for the American League, Bill Schweizer, met in Baltimore with the Orioles' owner, Peter Angelos, who again refused to field a replacement team. The league is threatening to make the team forfeit any missed replacement games. "There has been mention of the potential penalties that can be assessed," Angelos said. "My position is that everything the Orioles have done is in the best interests of baseball, in the best interest of Cal Ripken's streak."



A HAND FROM THE AUDIENCE — Ivano Newbill ended up head down in the seats after diving for a ball during the Pistons' 107-97 NBA loss to the visiting Knicks. In San Antonio, the Spurs ran their winning streak to nine straight by routing the Lakers, 107-84.

SCOREBOARD**NBA Standings****EASTERN CONFERENCE****Atlantic Division**

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Portland	34	33	.527	12
Sacramento	34	35	.493	15
Golden State	27	47	.319	27
Boston	27	47	.304	27
New Jersey	27	47	.304	27
Philadelphia	19	55	.268	37
Washington	18	57	.261	37
Central Division	14	57	.217	37
x-Indiana	22	43	.343	15
x-Chicago	22	43	.349	15
Cleveland	21	51	.251	17
Detroit	20	51	.245	19
Atlanta	19	52	.271	20
Milwaukee	17	54	.264	22
Detroit	13	57	.197	28
Western Conference	11	57	.174	28
x-San Antonio	20	58	.225	29
x-Dallas	22	59	.232	29
Houston	41	38	.504	10
Denver	33	34	.476	10
Dallas	32	37	.457	10
Phoenix	47	29	.570	—
x-Salt Lake	47	29	.570	—
L.A. Lakers	17	53	.257	44
San Antonio	21	57	.233	47
L.A. Lakers	43	26	.623	6
Portland	34	33	.527	12
Sacramento	34	35	.493	15
Golden State	27	47	.319	27
Boston	27	47	.304	27
New Jersey	27	47	.304	27
Philadelphia	19	55	.268	37
Washington	18	57	.261	37
Central Division	14	57	.217	37
x-Indiana	22	43	.343	15
x-Chicago	22	43	.349	15
Cleveland	21	51	.251	17
Detroit	20	51	.245	19
Atlanta	19	52	.271	20
Milwaukee	17	54	.264	22
Detroit	13	57	.197	28
Western Conference	11	57	.174	28
x-San Antonio	20	58	.225	29
x-Dallas	22	59	.232	29
Houston	41	38	.504	10
Denver	33	34	.476	10
Dallas	32	37	.457	10
Phoenix	47	29	.570	—
x-Salt Lake	47	29	.570	—
L.A. Lakers	17	53	.257	44
San Antonio	21	57	.233	47
L.A. Lakers	43	26	.623	6

Wednesday's Results**WNBA****ATLANTIC DIVISION****Midwest Division****Pacific Division****European Championship****QUALIFYING RESULTS****GROUP 1****Scandinavia****Poland****Wrocaw 3, Poland 1****Wrocaw 2, Poland 1****Wrocaw 3, Poland 1**

FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 1995

PAGE 21

Complicated Fuel 'Fingerprint' Is a Clue to Formula One Racing's Dispute

By Brad Spurgeon

Special to the Herald Tribune

PARIS — If Formula One racing has become increasingly predictable — Michael Schumacher wins, or Michael Schumacher is disqualified — what remains arcane are the rules of the International Automobile Federation.

There is the rule about a driver's passing another during the warm-up lap, or the one about the plank of wood on the bottom of the car being shaved down to an illegal thinness. And the one about racing fuel that doesn't match its "fingerprint."

For the winner and runner-up in the season-opening Brazil Grand Prix, this is the rule that got them disqualified. And it involved Schumacher, who drives for the Benetton-Renault team, plus David Coulthard, who drives for the Williams-Renault team.

But how does gasoline get a "fingerprint," what do the fuel regulations mean, and why are they there?

"We've got a rule," said Max Mosley, the president of automobile federation, "that they use pump petrol. The problem is, what is pump petrol? Because it has 200 to 300 components. And they vary from time to time."

Mosley said it took a week or two to analyze a fuel sample to determine its chemical makeup.

This time lag, in the past, left open the possibility of overturning the results of a race several weeks after it had been run.

"It was at the suggestion of the then chairman of Elf, Alain Guillou, that we brought in a new idea," Mosley said, referring to the French company that supplies fuel for many of the Grand Prix teams.

The fuel companies, Mosley said, were to be told "to submit an example of the fuel they intend to use before the season begins. Then do all the analyses, satisfy ourselves that it's completely legal. We then take from it a characteristic print, using gas chromatography."

Chromatography is a method used by chemists to separate often-complex mixtures.

Gas-liquid chromatography vaporizes solid and liquid samples of the fuels and introduces them to sensitive detectors by which minute amounts of material can be analyzed. The automobile federation calls the result a "fingerprint" of the fuel's molecular structure.

He ended his statement by saying,

"May Allah bless you all, Thank you." Among those present at the arena were the promoters Harold Rossfields Smith, Binal Muhammad and Akbar Muhammad.

There have been many reports since Tyson's release that he would dump King as his promoter. King reportedly was at his home in Florida on Thursday because his wife, Henrietta, was ill.

Tyson, 28, did not say when he hopes to return to the ring for what could be a series of some of the richest fights in history.

For the statement, Smith, who served time in prison for embezzling \$24 million from the Wells Fargo bank, said, "Tyson won't be free until his probation is over because of all the restrictions."

Tyson's probation lasts four years.

It was only the second time in two days that Tyson had left his estate in Southington, Ohio. On Wednesday, he made the 30-minute trip to Youngstown to meet with his probation officer, Dennis Almanz.

And if, during further tests now being carried out, the fuel samples still do not match, that, too, will be a violation of the automobile federation's rules.

"All approved fuels are legal," Mosley said. "Not all unapproved fuels are illegal. But it is nevertheless an offense to run an unapproved fuel."

And if the fuel is legal, even though the fingerprints do not match?

"It would be open to the court of appeal to say, should they so decide, that the penalty was excessive," said Mosley, referring to the hearing to be held in Paris on April 13. "They can do anything. They have complete liberty. But in the usual traditions of motor racing, the innocent mistake that takes you

outside the regulations always results in you being excluded."

According to the regulations, new fuels may be submitted throughout the season for testing, approval and fingerprinting — or rejected. But since it takes a couple of weeks to do the master fingerprint, samples must be submitted well in advance of a race.

Elf provides fuel for seven Formula One teams and, Mosley said, probably would have different fuels for teams with eight-cylinder engines than for those with 10-cylinder engines. And they might have different fuels for qualifying and practice as well.

"As it turned out, they only had the one fuel there," Mosley said of the Benetton and Wil-

iams teams. "But there is no danger of a gross injustice, because if by any chance the equipment was faulty or something like that has happened, you could reinstate them."

At the track, the automobile federation asks the fuel companies to provide samples of all the fuels for the fingerprint test. Mosley said, "so there might be fuel A, B, C and D. So we take a sample and we say which one is that? And they say it's C. So we take the printout of 'C' and we compare them."

They match, or they don't.

In Brazil, the McLaren team's Mobil fuel, and the Ferrari team's Agip gasoline, matched to the last detail, said Mosley, "which gave us some confidence."

In the case of the Elf fuel, he said, "The complainant, and I've only been told this unofficially, I've only heard it in conversation so far, but I understand that the density is different. There was a substance in the fuel taken from the car that was not present in the sample."

Elf has said that a fuel may change up to 30 percent of its characteristics after being heated in the tank of the car. But Mosley said the tests took this into account, and that it did not provide a reason for a new substance being introduced.

Benetton has refused to comment on the matter, but Williams, in a statement, raised three possibilities: Elf sent an incorrect batch of fuel to Brazil; the automobile federation's

testing equipment malfunctioned, or the equipment was incorrectly operated.

Elf, which has provided fuel to Formula One teams for 28 years without ever before being sanctioned, maintains that it has strictly abided by the rules.

It also complains that none of the test results were given to either the teams or to Elf to inspect and that it could not have its own experts take part in the testing, even though it had proposed to the federation at the end of 1994 that an independent group of experts analyze the fuel.

"What do they mean by a fingerprint?" asked Tom Saunders, the spokesman for Elf.

"If you do a fingerprint on a human it will be the same

match time after time. But when you refine crude oil, much will depend on where the oil comes from," he said, whether from Saudi Arabia, the North Sea or elsewhere.

"It's impossible to find two samples that are exactly the same," he said. "There are between 280 and 330 different molecules in a sample of fuel. No test will reveal two samples of fuel to be the same."

Speaking of the Ferrari and McLaren samples that Mosley said had matched, Saunders said, "I'd like to know what they mean by matched. We would like to be able to see the test."

Mosley, asked about the possibility that the testing equipment was faulty, since this was its first use at a Grand Prix, said

of the technicians, "When they found that the Williams and the Benetton didn't check out, nobody believed it. So they had to check and check and re-check. And they were worried about all the points that are now being raised by Elf."

It was not until they had made several tests, he said, that they had enough confidence in the results to report them to federation officials.

Everyone concerned — the automobile federation, Elf, the teams and drivers — seem to have come to the same basic conclusion: No one was cheating or trying to gain an advantage.

So why the disqualification? "The whole system would collapse if there isn't a sanction," Mosley said.

Tour computer points. That's like making a profit of 227 Italian lire for selling a pizza. It comes to 13 cents.

Yet Sampras has openly courted Agassi's growth. Each has been hungry for a rival. In a sense, they're both on the same team with Nike, their shoe sponsor. It's a beautiful, professional friendship.

"Pete is not the enemy, you know," Agassi said. "I have a great amount of respect for him on lots of levels. We've both played our whole lives for moments like this. We have one thing on our mind and that is to win the Davis Cup. We're going to do this together."

Neither player had wanted to play Davis Cup this year. When they decided to come, they seemed to decide together.

"It boils down to us not wanting to lose to Italy on our fourth or fifth guy," Agassi said. "If we are going to lose they are going to have to beat our best."

Agassi is playing his first Davis Cup match since 1993, when he dropped out in the middle of a qualifying-round tie, albeit after it had been decided. But he played on winning teams in 1990 and 1992, and his record is 20-4 in Davis Cup singles. The United States has won six of its last eight ties with Italy, but none have come since 1979, when the Italians were drubbed by 5-0.

court Tuesday. Everything is in place to make the Americans feel foreign and vulnerable. Everything but the ball on the racket.

